The Middlebury Campus

VOL. 98 NO. 13 | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2000 | SINCE 1905

State legislature honors Middlebury's charter

By Chris Atwood
Staff Writer

The Vermont State Legislature celebrated Middlebury College's Bicentennial and honored the College's special relationship with the state of Vermont on February 9, 2000.

The Vermont State Legislature passed a written resolution introduced by State Representative Anne Ginevan in honor of the College's Bicentennial. The Legislature's traditional Farmer's Night was dedicated to the College.

President McCardell, former Vermont Senator Robert T. Stafford '35, and former Governor Salmon were among the representatives of the College who attended the ceremony. After the motion had been read, the Legislature stood to acknowledge those present in Middlebury College's name.

"Middlebury College is a very important part of my constituency. It's important to take the College's Bicentennial to the legislature and have them join the celebration. The College is just a very important part of our community," said Ginevan.

McCardell met with legislators throughout the day before attending the Vermont Legislature's traditional "Farmer's Night" Wednesday evening.

Farmer's Night is a direct link to the Vermont Legislature's past and a recreation of an old tradition. Since many of Vermont's early representatives were farmers and the journey to and from Montpelier was often quite long, the legislature would sponsor a night of entertainment Wednesday evenings in order to occupy the representatives.

"I am once again reminded of the strong, indeed integral, relationship not simply between town and the college, but also between the college and the state. . . . Likewise, there has never been any doubt that we have been, and remain to this day, a Vermont institution," said McCardell.

Farmer's Night entertainment is now open to the public. This

(see State, page 4)

Moon over College Street

Peter Huoppi

Sinking low over the western horizon, *a crescent moon looms over the traffic light at the crest of College Street as a set of car tail lights streaks by. Tuesday night's clear skies quickly gave way to clouds Wednesday morning.*

Alternate course title skirts 'gay and lesbian' issue

By Nicole Miller
News Editor

An optional course title has been offered to students concerned with taking a course in gay and lesbian studies. Professor Kevin Moss said that when he offered the course WG 223, Gay and Lesbian Studies for the spring term, some students expressed a concern of having the words "gay" and "lesbian" appear on their transcripts.

The course can now also be registered as WG 500, Independent Study.

Moss said that "he finds it interesting that the course has been a focus of attention."

"Although it seemed to me that the situation could have been resolved in some other way, the impetus came from the students," he said.

Students are concerned with either their parents questioning the course or future employers seeing the title on a transcript, Moss explained.

Kristen Gray, the treasurer for Middlebury's Open Queer Alliance and a student in the course, said that she "feels that it is sad and telling that making an option for the course would be necessary."

However, Gray said that she thought that offering an alternative was a good idea, if it meant that people could take the course who otherwise would not have been able to.

Despite the optional title, Gray said that she thought that it was very important to have the class with its present name available. In this case, she said, "having them both is the best way."

Moss's original idea to create a different section, as opposed to an optional title, was turned down because Middlebury's computer systems would be confused by an attempt to assign two different titles to the same course, explained Alison Byerly, director of the curriculum committee.

"The solution, although not ideal," said Byerly, "seemed to serve the purpose of making the course more accessible to students while still maintaining the course title that best reflects the course content."

The fact that the course will be taught as a seminar, but could appear on certain transcripts as an independent study, is a discrepancy that Byerly said should not be a problem for students.

"There have been arrangements in the past whereby students have done a 500-level independent study within a course structure, typically by attending the same classes but doing more advanced written work," Byerly said.

The addition of another upper-level course on the transcript will not be detrimental because each student can take up to four 500-level courses and Byerly said that students rarely take that many.

Peggy Nelson, the chair of the Women and Gender Studies department said that the decision to provide an optional title made a lot of sense.

"I don't think students should be penalized for the ignorance of others," she said.

In response to whether the optional title was simply skirting the issue of homosexuality, Byerly responded, "I don't see this decision as pushing controversial issues under the table. It simply allows individual students to make a choice about how much information about the course they wish to appear on their grade transcript."

The Gay and Lesbian Studies course is the first course offered, other than in Winter Term, that directly addresses the issues of homosexuality and queer culture.

The Women Studies department was officially changed a year ago to include the term "gender." The gay and lesbian studies course, according to Gray, demonstrates a forward step in the progression of the department.

Although no students have come forward to enroll in the course under the optional name, Moss said there are five students currently enrolled and anyone else is still encouraged to join.

Student injured in sledding accident

By Nicole Miller
News Editor

Catherine "Katie" Samson '00, the goalie of the women's varsity lacrosse team, was severely injured during a sledding accident at her home in Philadelphia on Saturday, January 29.

While her status is still uncertain, reports from her family said that her spinal cord was completely severed, causing paralysis from her chest down.

Samson is currently at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia and will most likely be moved to the Magee Hospital, also in Philadelphia, for a month of rehabilitation.

When the accident occurred, Samson was riding a sled and went off of a jump with two of her friends. She fell on top of one of her friends and landed on her head and neck, completely severing her C-7 in the spinal cord.

Samson was flown to the Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia and underwent surgery to stabilize her spinal column.

Currently, she has mobility in her arms and wrists and a slight sensation in her fingertips.

Scott Barnicle, the dean of Atwater Commons, described Middlebury's response to Samson's injury as "overwhelming."

According to Craig Hine '02, who visited Samson last week, the family is being inundated with flowers and letters.

"The reaction from Middlebury has been awesome," said Hine at a meeting of at least 70 of Samson's friends held Wednesday evening. "Right now she is in good spirits and is thinking positively."

In order to alleviate any stress on the family, Hine and other close friends of Samson have developed a website allowing people to send messages. They have created a picture album online and have designed a bulletin board through which Samson can correspond through email with her friends.

Friends and sports teams are trying to develop fund-raising events to help Samson and her family.

According to her lacrosse coach, Missy Foote, Samson is incredibly sweet, but also unbelievably competitive on the field.

Foote said that Samson was key to the team's undefeated season and national championship last year.

Samson was chosen for the All-Tournament Team, consisting of the best female lacrosse players in the country. She was also chosen as the Toyota Player of the Game.

She was also a member of the ultimate frisbee team.

College Chaplain, Laurie Jordan said that the main issue now is the overwhelming support that the family is receiving from friends.

Although it's great, she said, it is important to protect the family and not add too much stress. For that reason, students, faculty and staff are all encouraged to visit her webpage at www.Middlebury.edu/~csamson.com in order to communicate with Samson.

Index

Town News.....5
Opinions.....6
Arts.....9
Features.....14
Sports.....20

The Campus is printed on recycled paper. It is also recyclable.

WEB please visit our website at: www.middlebury.edu/~campus

Inside...
Seniors develop education outdoor guidebook
page 14

Photo Essay
Hello and good-bye
page 13

Sports
Men's hockey vaults to first place in NESCAC standings
page 20

COLLEGE shorts

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

UVM cancels hockey season due to hazing

UVM canceled the remainder of its men's hockey season in January after learning that players had lied during an investigation into hazing practices.

Player Corey LaTulippe complained in October about hazing at a party. The university investigated and punished several members of the team, suspending them for one game each and placing them on probation.

In late January, university officials learned that some of the players had lied during the investigation, and, as a result, the university decided to cancel the rest of the season.

LaTulippe has since left UVM and has sued the university in federal court, alleging that UVM failed to intervene sufficiently in the hazing incidents.

The hockey team had a 5-9-3 record and 15 games left in the season at the time of the cancellation.

Students abuse handicap-parking at UConn

Journalism students at the University of Connecticut discovered numerous abuses of handicap-parking permits on their campus last semester.

By staking out handicap-parking spaces and recording parking permit and license plate numbers, the students discovered that six students without disabilities were regularly using handicap-parking permits that belonged to others.

They found one student brought his wife's 81-year old grandmother with him every day so he could park in a handicapped space. Another student used a permit that he had stolen from an amputee in 1998.

When informed of the abuse, campus police officers said that it was very difficult to catch someone in the act, which is required for prosecution.

Human subject medical studies suspended

In an effort to enforce rules on medical research, federal regulators suspended studies on human subjects at the University of Pennsylvania and at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in January.

The Food and Drug Administration suspended eight experiments at Penn's Institute for Human Gene Therapy. The suspension comes in the wake of the recent death of an Arizona teenager, Jesse Gelsinger, who died while receiving an experimental treatment at the institute.

At the University of Alabama-Birmingham, the federal Office for Protection from Research Risks ordered a review of the university's 550 studies involving human subjects. The OPPR found that the panel in charge of research at UAB had not followed several safety requirements, including how to protect study participants' confidentiality and how to minimize risk to them.

Both institutions may be allowed to resume their studies if the required changes are made.

Students crawl in performance-art piece

Nine students at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston took part in a performance-art piece last month that consisted of crawling through the snow and dirt on Boston Common.

The "group crawl" was led by William Pope.L, a visiting artist at the museum school and a lecturer in the theatre department at Bates College. Pope.L has been organizing such performances since 1979.

The purpose of the piece was to "call attention to the privilege of being a vertical person" and to raise awareness about the predicament of the homeless, according to Pope.L.

The crawlers were encouraged to wear their best clothing, which was ruined in the crawl.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Power generator fails, cuts phone lines

By Meleah Chamberlain
Staff Writer

Part of a generator that produces heat at Middlebury College twisted off and metal fragments flew out from the failed turbine into the power facilities building last week.

The main phone line to the campus athletic and arts centers was severed because the wires run through the facilities heating plant building, according to Phil Benoit, director of Public Affairs.

The generator was down for several days after the failure on January 29 in order to cleanup and to analyze the problem. During that time, the College generated less energy but was able to restore the phones before the students, faculty and staff returned from winter term break.

"We were fortunate that no one was hurt because it was a dangerous situation when the generator failed. We were concerned," Benoit said.

The generator will be working again in about three weeks, when the new turbine ordered from the Coen Company arrives and is installed.

According to Jon Woodbury, director of Facilities Management, the cause of the mechanical failure was metal fatigue, although no parts have failed since 1982 when Middlebury first purchased the generators from the Coen Company.

"The failure of the metal of a major part of the generator was due to a matter of quality control where the unit was manufactured, which has never happened before," said Woodbury.

Parts often wear to the point that something fails, explained Beniot. "This is the kind of thing that can happen. It doesn't occur very often with this kind of operation, but is not preventable," he said.

The estimated cost of replacement of the generator is $60,000, said Woodbury, and the combined cost of the new machine, the clean-up, the removal of the old machine and the disposal cost will be approximately $100,000.

The College usually supplies 15 percent of its own power for electricity with two steam generators and purchases the remaining electricity from the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (CVPS).

Until the generator is fully operational again, the College will purchase additional kilowatts of energy from to supplement the one generator still in operation.

"The College decided to use generators for our own electricity in order to better manage electric utility," said Woodbury.

While the generator was down, not much power was consumed because the College was on break. Even with the reduced power needed during break, the impact on cost of electricity this month is difficult to predict as more power needs to be purchased from CVPS to make up for the loss of energy from the generator.

The winter rates are 10 cents a kilowatt-hour, according to Woodbury. The College used $133,000 worth of electricity from CVPS during the month of December. For an entire year, the cost of electricity purchased from CVPS is approximately $1.5 million.

The controls to shut down the machine after the failure worked smoothly.

"All controls of the generator that needed to shut down worked fine. The generator went off-line without a glitch, and the steam shut down to the generator as it should," said Woodbury.

LAST MINUTE SPECIALS ON SPRING BREAK!
CANCUN! JAMAICA! NASSAU!
SAVE AN ADDITIONAL $50 PER PERSON
32 HOURS OF FREE DRINKS!
Call us at 1-800-293-1443 or go to
STUDENTCITY.com

SPRING BREAK 2000
ALL DESTINATIONS
Best Prices, Hotels, Discounts, & Biggest Parties!
EARN CASH & FREE TRIPS!
SALES REPS & STUDENT ORGS. WANTED
BROWSE THE WEB inter-campus.com
For Details & Reservations Call
INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAMS
1-800-327-6013

Campus Weather

Four day forecast

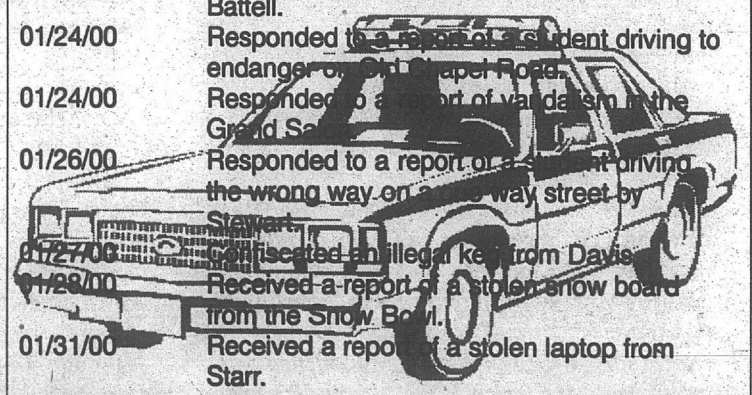
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Rain and Snow	Snow Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
High: 36° Low: 12°	High: 28° Low: 12°	High: 25° Low: 11°	High: 30° Low: 19°

Weather courtesy of http://www.weather.com

Campus Security Log

The Department of Public Safety responded to the following incident reports.

01/23/00	Responded to a report of an unregistered party in Lang.
01/23/00	Responded to a report of an illegal party in Battell.
01/24/00	Responded to a report of a student driving to endanger on Old Chapel Road.
01/24/00	Responded to a report of vandalism in the Grand Sa[illegible].
01/26/00	Responded to a report of a student driving the wrong way on a one way street by Stewart.
01/27/00	Confiscated an illegal key from Davis.
01/28/00	Received a report of a stolen snow board from the Snow Bowl.
01/31/00	Received a report of a stolen laptop from Starr.
01/31/00	Received a report of a stolen television from Forest.
02/03/00	Received a report of stolen skis from Adirondack View.
02/04/00	Responded to a report of a hit and run accident on Hillcrest Road.
02/05/00	Responded to a medical emergency in Allen.



If you have any information on the above incidents, please contact the Department of Public Safety at x-5911 or x-5133.

College shifts focus to new construction as fall plans are completed

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

With most of the fall construction projects near complete, including Bicentennial Hall, the all-weather field, the modular housing units and the new signage around campus, the Office of Facilities Planning has turned its attention to future projects. The final designs for the Ross Commons additions, the future of the Starr Library facility and the former Science Center, a comprehensive parking plan and early plans for the Axinn Center for the Humanities are all projects currently under consideration by the College.

In December, the architecture firm for Bicentennial Hall, Barr and Barr, was awarded the "1999 Association of General Contractors of Vermont Best Builders Award" for their work on the project.

A work by sculptor Tony Smith entitled Smog will be placed in front of Bicentennial Hall in the spring. In preparation for the arrival of the sculpture, the infrastructure for the work has been put in place and the grading and landscaping of the site has been completed.

The all-weather playing field, made of Astroturf and measuring 225 feet by 390 feet, is open and ready for general use.

The final landscaping and field maintenance along with the painting of the asphalt border around the field will completed this spring.

Russ Reilly, Director of Athletics, spoke of the benefits of the all-weather field and the opportunity it provides to "make the experience fuller for lacrosse and other spring sports teams who often play indoors until the start of the season."

Reilly also said that he hopes the new field will particularly benefit the intramural program, which he said was "a key component in the success of the Commons System."

Future plans for the field include the possibility of installing lights to allow for extended use.

New signs for the buildings on campus as well as historical plaques were installed the week of October 11. Eight lighted map signs are to be installed as well.

The renovation project for Starr Library has been put on hold for further discussion. The College is currently looking at two options: the renovation of the current Starr Library building or the renovation of the former Science Center, the Storrs Avenue building, into a permanent library facility.

The firm of Finegold Alexander and Associates is preparing a study on the feasibility of renovating the current Starr Library building. The architecture firm of Gwathmey Siegel developed two designs for the renovation of the Storrs Avenue building into a permanent library facility.

The Ross Commons project continues to move forward. Tae Soo Kim Partners continues to work on the final designs for a complex including a 66 bed senior housing unit, Commons administrative space, a 300 seat dining room, and the renovation of the current Ross Lounge into a townhouse-style senior housing unit.

The town of Middlebury gave the College its approval to expand the Ridgeline parking lot by 250 spaces. The new parking spaces in the Ridgeline lot will take the place of the spaces lost with the eventual closing of "A" Lot due to the Ross Commons project.

According to Neil Bergquist '01, co-chair of Ross Commons, the final result will be "one of the most well thought-out and well designed buildings on campus."

Bergquist also spoke of Ross' importance and influence as "the first fully articulated commons."

"A lot of decisions we make may be echoed in the development of the other commons," he said.

Construction is expected to commence in summer 2000. While the Ross Lounge renovation should be completed by January 2001, the entire project will not be finished until January 2002.

A comprehensive parking plan to accompany the Ross renovation project has also been finalized. The town of Middlebury gave the College its approval to expand the Ridgeline parking lot by 250 spaces.

The new parking spaces in the Ridgeline lot will take the place of the spaces lost with the eventual closing of "A" lot due to the Ross Commons project.

The expansion of the Ridgeline lot will commence this spring and be completed in the summer. "A" lot will then be closed in order for construction to begin on the Ross Commons project.

A plan for a new steam line from the central heating plant to Ross Commons is also in preliminary stages. Lundquist, Killeen, Potvin and Bender, Inc, working with Facilities Management, has created an early plan.

The steam line project must run concurrently with the Ross Commons project. Completion of the new steam line is projected in two construction seasons.

Initial planning for the Axinn Center for the Humanities is also underway. The Axinn Center, which will house the English, Creative Writing, American Literature and Civilization and the Film/Video programs, will probably be located between Starr Library and the former Science Center.

The Axinn Center Space Programming Committee was created to determine the nature and size of the spaces needed for the Center.

The committee includes representatives from three academic departments, the language schools, and staff from Facilities Management, Operations, and Information Technology Services.

Master plans for Atwater, Cook, Wonnacott and Brainerd Commons are also being discussed.

Thomas McGinn, Program Director of the Office of Facilities Planning, spoke of the complicated nature of creating a long-term construction plan for the College involving so many elements, although he remains optimistic about the progress being made. "You have to look at everything," he said. "And that takes a little bit of time."

Detailed information about construction projects and planning on campus is available at the Office of Facilities Planning's new website, www.middlebury.edu/facilities.

Modular homes pass building codes

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

The five modular housing units near the Ridgeline parking lot were opened to students for occupancy this week after last month's problems with compliance to the building codes were resolved.

The College made the decision to install the modular housing units last summer, and purchased standard type modular units to be installed near the Ridgeline parking lot.

In September, the Vermont State Department of Labor and Industry ruled that the modular units were not considered small houses, such as the campus-owned houses offered to seniors. Instead they were ruled as typical of bed and breakfast units or rooming houses.

Normal modular home units are built to Housing and Urban Development specifications for small homes. The modular homes, used on the College campus to house students, would be considered rooming houses and would accordingly be required to comply with Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) standards, which are more stringent, according to George Whitney, director of operations.

BOCA standards include such requirements as compliance with the American Disabilities Act, stricter life-safety and fire codes relating to smoke alarms and sprinklers, and a stronger roof structure for protection from collected snow.

These stricter codes opened up a "whole new arena of codes and building specs for the manufacturer," Whitney said. The manufacturer was forced to redesign the units and add the necessary elements to comply with the BOCA codes.

The unexpected requirements caused "a mad scramble," according to Whitney, to comply with the new codes, ultimately resulting in delays in completing the units and allowing the students to occupy them.

"The real issue was that it was a new type of building for the College and permitting agencies in the state of Vermont," said Whitney."

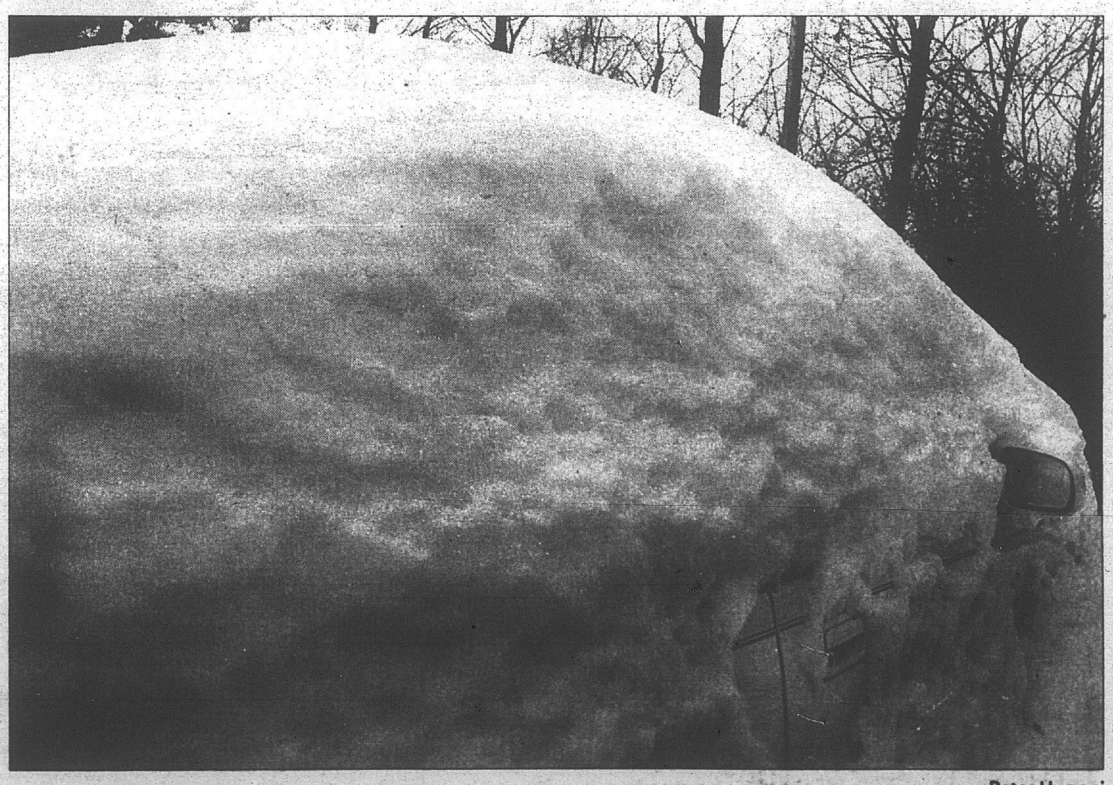
Students moved into the units in early February, and "seem to be pleased," according to Whitney.

Although there have been some delays in installing Ethernet connections and cable television in the units, all of the other facilities are in place.

Ross Commons gave each of their new residents a $25 gift certificate in order to buy pots and pans to outfit the kitchens of the units.

Alex Sperling '01 expressed the sentiments of many of the residents of the modular units when she said "Where can you go from here? It can't get much better than this."

Snowbound



Peter Huoppi

Buried under several inches of snow, *a car in the Longwell parking lot pays the price for remaining idle through the duration of the break. After a long period of warm weather, winter finally arrived in Middlebury.*

Angela's Italian Restaurant

Specials:
Mon - 2 Buck Night
Tue - Ladies' Night
all frozen drinks $3
all well drinks $2
Wed - Canadian Night
all Canadians $2
Johny Whatever Group - no cover
Thur - Bone Night
bones $3.50, pints $1.50

Angela's Upstairs Lounge

Wed - Johny Whatever Group
2 acoustical guitarists and singers
9 pm - 1 am, no cover
Sat - Adams Holmes
piano/guitar, songs of the '60s
9 pm - 1 am, no cover

Angela's Pub
(entrance to the right by driveway)

Friday - Live Music, 9 pm - 1 am
Saturday - DJ

Great Italian food in a small Vermont town
Main Street
Middlebury

Check Out New Late Night Menu!
www.Angela's restaurant.com

Perkins award presented to Huang for excellence in teaching

By Julianne Frisbie
In-Depth Editor

Timothy Huang, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, was awarded the seventh annual Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching on February 8, 2000, at an intimate award ceremony in Bicentennial Hall.

The Perkins Award is awarded every year and alternates between being given to a faculty member in the Mathematics and Computer Science department or to one in the Biology, Chemistry, Geology, or Physics departments.

The ceremony opened with a greeting from Associate Dean of Faculty Jim Larrabee who explained the criteria used to screen candidates.

"We focused on student nominations and evaluations from the past three years about faculty teaching," he said.

"He's very energetic in the classroom. He encourages research and debate on hot topics going on around the world and how they relate to the field of computer science . . ."
—Deniz Sarioz '01

President McCardell offered a list of Huang's educational background and previous achievements. Huang received a bachelor's of science degree in mathematics with computer science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1989 and a doctorate in computer science from the University of California, Berkeley in 1999.

Prior to coming to Middlebury in 1997, he was a research assistant, lecturer, and teaching assistant at the University of California, Berkeley, and was a software engineer at Oracle Corporation from 1989 to 1990.

Huang was the recipient of the Faculty Early Career Development Award along with a four year grant totaling $200,000 given by The National Science Foundation, and an International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence Distinguished Paper Award in 1997.

In 1994, while still at Berkeley, he received the Teaching Effectiveness Award and the Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award.

A few of Huang's students spoke fondly of their experiences working with him both inside and outside of the classroom. Ben Nobel '01 stated, "Every course evaluation I would write 'This teacher should get an award.' I'm glad to know my comments have finally paid off!"

Deniz Sarioz '01 spoke of Huang's involvement in the classroom and in extracurriculars.

"He's very energetic in the classroom. He encourages research and debate on hot topics going on around the world and how they relate to the field of computer science. Outside the classroom Tim Huang is important in his students lives, coaching us in the Green Chicken contest and founding a computer science club."

Dave Mendelson '00 was sitting in the front row while his favorite teacher was being honored. He commented, "I think of Tim as a mentor, not just a professor. When I go to his office, I talk to him as a friend. Ever since I came here to Middlebury I have taken a class with him every semester except one J-term. I guess you could say I like him!"

Marion Perkins Harris, a 1957 Middlebury graduate, and her brother Dr. David L. Perkins were in attendance to present the award and explain its origins.

Peter Huoppi

Dr. David L. Perkins (left) and Marion Perkins Harris (right) presented Timothy Huang with the Perkins Award.

Harris told of how her mother Dr. Ruth M.H. Perkins, a 1932 Middlebury graduate, established the award in memory of her husband, Professor Llewellyn R. Perkins, who taught at Middlebury College from 1914 until his retirement in 1941.

While at Middlebury, Professor Perkins founded and chaired the Mathematics department.

Now that Harris and Perkins are in charge of presenting the award, they have augmented the fund and expanded the scope of the award to honor their mother, Ruth, as well.

State celebrates college's bicentennial

(continued from page 1)

Farmer's Night was designated Middlebury College night. President McCardell spoke and Middlebury a cappella groups the Dissipated Eight and the Bobolinks performed.

Will Melton, vice president of External Affairs, was one of the central performers in the College's presentation. Dressed as Gamaliel Painter, one of the founders of the town of Middlebury and the College, Melton introduced President McCardell to the audience. Melton's costume was designed with the help of the College's Theatre department.

Melton said he hoped the event would "engender pride amongst Middlebury's many constituents."

He said he saw the role of the ceremony as the college returning to the legislature "for a 200 year update on how it's going."

On November 1, 1800, Middlebury College received a charter to open its doors from the state's legislators. Within four days the school became a working college.

In his remarks, President McCardell defined what he saw as "the very essence of what higher education is all about."

"Students study new subjects, read new books, meet new people, consider new questions. They have the opportunity to master new skills. They see new places, make new friends, perhaps fall in love," he said. "They try some things and succeed, others and, perhaps, fail. We push them. We challenge them. We insist upon excellence from them. And they discover in themselves capacities they never knew they possessed."

"We push them . We challenge them. We insist upon excellence from them. And they discover in themselves capacities they never knew they possessed."
—President McCardell

Midd Briefs

By Nicole Miller
News Editor

New lounge furniture installed in dorms

The installation of new lounge furniture in ten dorms on campus was completed over the winter holidays. The furniture was purchased in response to a list of needs compiled by students last spring. According to Kathy Ebner, the dean of commons, the furniture is meant to create a more comfortable and homelike atmosphere for the residents of the dorms.

The ordering and planning of the furniture was competed over the holiday break and throughout January, each commons had an official grand opening of the lounges.

The next challenge will be to determine a fair way to plan and organize social events in the new lounges, Ebner said.

"Residents deserve the space, but it is true that Middlebury is challenged for space for parties with bands . . . ." Ebner said.

The commons are currently discussing ideas of how to accommodate the needs for social space.

Middlebury ranked 6th in Peace Corps

The Peace Corps has ranked Middlebury College as sixth nationally in terms of contributions among smaller colleges and universities. According to a letter written by Peace Corps director, Mark Schneider, there are currently 18 Middlebury alumni "serving our country and the people of the developing works" as volunteers.

In the letter addressed to President McCardell, Schneider also described Middlebury as having a "strong relationship" with the Peace Corps, and said that they "greatly appreciate the repeated service."

Comprehensive fee committee plans to release report

The comprehensive fee committed plans to release the fee for the 2000/2001 academic year next week, according to committee director David Paul '00. The committee consists of 7 members and was formed at the beginning of January in order to compile a report.

Middlebury's comprehensive fee announcement follows in the wake of the recent report from Williams College calling for no increase in next year's fee.

New Board of Trustees chair elected

Churchill G. Franklin of Concord, Mass. was elected chair of the Middlebury College Board of Trustees and assumed the post on January 1, 2000.

Franklin is the executive vice-president and co-founder of Acadian Asset Management, a Boston-based global investment management firm. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1971 and has been an active alumnus for many years.

He was first elected as a trustee in 1989 and has since served as vice chair of the Board and on several Board committees.

SGA Briefs

Mandatory informational meetings on Wednesday, February 9, at 6 p.m. and Monday, February 14, at 7 p.m. in the SGA office for those interested in being SGA senators.

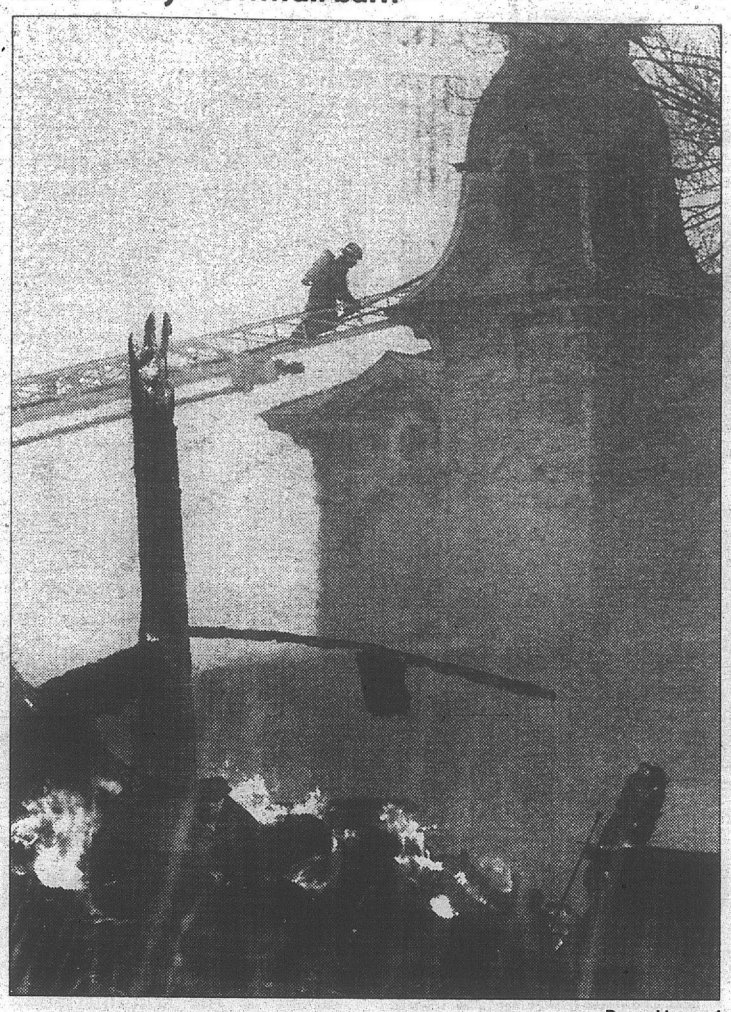
Elections for open Senate seats will be held online from 6 p.m. on February 17 to 6 p.m. on February 18. The following constituencies will be holding elections: Freshman Class, Freshman Febs, Davis, Stewart, Junior Half-Year, Starr, IHC and Brooker.

Due date for committee applications is on February 17 at 5 p.m. The applications are located on the SGA webpage. The following committees will be accepting applications:
- Publications Committee
- Harrassment Policy Review Committee
- Feb Self-Study Task Force
- Symposium Committee

Melissa Pruessing will no longer be serving as director of student organizations because of her February graduation. Katherine Milgram has been appointed the new director of student organizations.

Two SGA senators were removed from office for failing to meet the attendance requirements.

Fire destroys Cornwall barn



Peter Huoppi

As the remains of a barn smolder, *Middlebury firefighters work to control a fire in an abandoned house on Route 125 in Cornwall.*

State ponders gay marriage decision

By Elizabeth Allen
Staff Writer

On December 20, 1999, the Vermont Supreme Court announced that the state must grant same-sex couples the same rights and privileges that married heterosexual couples have. The court ruled that denying gay and lesbian couples these rights is unconstitutional under the state constitution's "Common Benefits Clause." According to this clause, rights should be granted "for the common benefit, protection and security of the people, nation or community, and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single person, family or set of persons who are part of only that community." By privileging heterosexual couples over homosexual couples, marriage as currently defined in Vermont thus violates this clause.

Gay rights activists around the world hailed the decision in Baker vs. the State as great progress. "This is a legal and cultural milestone," said Mary Bonauto, a co-counsel for one of the three plaintiff couples. However, the decision does not mean that gay and lesbian couples can now legally marry. There are several complicating factors.

The Vermont Supreme Court left the means of enacting same-sex marriage rights up to the state legislature. There are several ways that this could be done.

1. The state constitution could be amended to change the definition of marriage to include gay and lesbian couples. This option, due to its lengthy and involved nature, has received little consideration or endorsement from legislators or lobbyists at this point.

2. A law could be passed to expand the current benefits of marriage to gay and lesbian couples. Some fear that such a law would be too controversial to succeed. Nevertheless, proponents of same-sex marriage tend to favor this idea. They believe that it would be a quick and effective way to enact the Supreme Court's decision.

3. The legislature could pass a "domestic partnership" law, a special legal status for gay and lesbian couples only. Domestic partnership would grant all the rights and privileges of heterosexual civil marriage, but it would not be called marriage. The domestic partnership idea has gained support among some legislators. Opponents of this argue that domestic partnership would single out gays and lesbians in a separate and unequal measure.

There is some doubt whether same-sex marriage rights enacted in this state would be recognized elsewhere. A domestic partnership law would most likely grant rights to Vermont citizens that could not be transferred to other states. Also, approximately thirty states have passed laws that explicitly prohibit same-sex marriage. Furthermore, the Defense of Marriage Act passed by Congress allows states not to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Since the state legislature reconvened in January, the possibility of domestic partnership has received support from lawmakers who are looking for a compromise. Governor Howard Dean predicted in December that "the legislature will pass a domestic partnership bill, and I'm comfortable with that."

Legislation of some sort is currently being drafted. The Senate Judiciary Committee has set February 23 as a tentative deadline by which the draft will be completed.

Meanwhile, two hearings have been held at the State House in Montpelier, allowing a forum for Vermonters on same-sex marriage. Others have made their voices heard through demonstrations. Many have contacted their newspapers and their legislators with letters, E-mails and phone calls on the controversial subject.

To weigh in with your own opinion on same-sex marriage in Vermont, you can leave a message with the sergeant-at-arms at (800) 322-5616 or (802) 828-2228. You can also call Governor Dean's office through the Governor's Action Line at (800) 649-6825.

Additionally, a forum on the issues surrounding same-sex marriage will occur on campus at 7:30 p.m., February 10, in Dana Auditorium. A panel will discuss the issues and then answer questions. Panelists include moderator and Russian professor Kevin Moss; political science professor Murray Dry; commons dean David Edleson; Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles, two of the plaintiffs in Baker vs. the state; and Beth Robinson of the Middlebury firm Langrock, Sperry and Wool, who represented Beck and Jolles. This event is free and open to the public.

TOWN shorts

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Town News Editor

Town meeting warnings and ballot issues released

Middlebury voters are gearing up for a month of debate leading up to the town meeting on March 6 at 7:30 p.m. and elections on March 7. Currently, the town budget stands at $4,026,662, with $3,073,398 of that amount coming from taxes on the town's residents. Discussion will be raised at the meeting as to whether this budget should be accepted.

Town residents also need to discuss whether the plan to collect taxes on three separate dates, August 10, 2001; November 10, 2001; and March 10, 2002, is desirable. The possibility of the town taking advantage of a state allotted minimum of at least $50 per mile on all Class 1, 2 and 3 town highways will also be addressed.

Elections will be held on March 7. Ten town officials are running unopposed for the offices of town clerk, moderator, selectman, prudential committee, school board, library trustee and lister. Voters will also decide whether the town should borrow $200,000 in funds to renovate the Memorial Sports Center and if the town should call upon all nuclear weapons states to secure a nuclear weapons abolition treaty.

ACSWMD considers new landfill site

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is considering joining a coalition of towns planning to create a new landfill to be located in Hartland, VT. Hartland is located near the junction of I-91 and I-89. Officials hope that the potential site would provide sustainable long-term trash disposal rates for the 19 towns which fall under the jurisdiction of ACSWMD. The landfill site has already passed through several stages of state and local permitting and is currently in the final stages of Act 250 approval. ACSWMD is also considering partnerships with the Rutland Solid Waste Management District and another undisclosed city in New Hampshire.

Ripton residents seek grant to connect trails

Eight private landowners living on the edge of the Green Mountain National Forest are attempting to connect their "Natural Turnpike" composed of a set of unofficial cross country skiing and hiking trails. The residents are working in concert with the Ripton elementary school to create a two mile system of trails linking the school to private lands, with the aim of eventually connecting to Middlebury College's Rikert Ski Touring Center. If the town recieves a Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation Grant, the funds would cover the costs of trimming trees and brush and building three small bridges across brooks. While the trails would be open to town residents, access would most likely not be completely open to the general public.

Theater group raises funds for crash victim and fellow player

The Middlebury Community Players sent letters to all members of the theatre organization to solicit donations for Sarah Stone, an active member of the company. Stone, a morning disc jockey for WRRO-FM in Middlebury, was injured January 24 in a head-on collision on Route 30 in Sudbury. Stone sustained injuries to her head and lower body, but is expected to recover fully.

The Middlebury Campus

The Campus is looking for people interested in the following positions.
Please contact Chris Morgan at x5736 for further information.

Sports Editor
The sports editor is responsible for assigning and editing articles covering all club and varsity sports on campus. The editor is also responsible for the layout of the section.

On-line Editor
The on-line editor is one of two editors responsible for putting the text of the Campus on our site. This is a paid position.

Staff Writer
Staff writers are the backbone of the Campus covering issues in all areas from news to sports. This is a great way to get an introduction to the paper.

Planning to Study Abroad?

Syracuse has your ticket!

ENGLAND * ITALY
HONGKONG * SPAIN
ZIMBABWE * FRANCE

SYRACUSE STUDY ABROAD

119 Euclid Ave/Box D Syracuse, NY 13244
800 235 3472 suabroad@syr.edu
http://sumweb.syr.edu/dipa

Editorial

Opting for Ignorance

When the College decided to offer the course "WG 223: Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies," it made the right step in introducing a discipline about which many students here at the Middlebury are ignorant. Yet, when the College chose to offer the same course under a different name, "WG 500: Independent Study," it took a step backwards, bending the academic rules because of societal pressures. The College should not have changed its own academic standards just to provide a way for students to get around a highly sensitive social issue.

The course description clearly states that the course is an introduction to gay and lesbian studies and makes no claims that it is advanced work. Despite this fact, the College still gave the course a very different name, one that suggests a high level of study within the field. The College Handbook states that a 500-level project requires that students have "advanced preparation and superior records in their fields." An advanced study on a transcript certainly is more significant than an introductory course, and by presenting the basic elements of a field as advanced work, it discounts the seriousness of all independent projects.

The pressures of society were channeled through the concerns of students afraid of the words "gay and lesbian" appearing on their transcripts. These students feared that employers or graduate schools might see these three words on a transcript and discriminate because of them. In a society were many stereotypes still exist this may be a legitimate concern, but it does not mean that a person should hide their interests. A student taking this course under its original name should be proud that they are one of the few helping our society to better understand all of its parts.

A better option than creating two names for the same class would have been to create a name for the class that avoided the potentially troublesome words, but even this solution would have proved to be no better than the current situation. A name such as "Introduction to Alternative Sexuality Studies" would technically provide a way around the words "gay and lesbian," but would replace them with a synonymous phrase. Anyone who might discriminate on this basis would see through the new title as well. The words do not matter; the discrimination will still exist.

The College should only offer the course under one name and that should be, "WG 223: Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies." Calling the course WG 500 is a misrepresentation of the class and shows the College's disregard for its own policies. Furthermore, WG 500 hides the nature of an important course in an important field of study. If no one will take the course under the name that was intended then how will the words "gay" and "lesbian" ever be accepted by all of society. Boundaries and prejudices are changed only when people push them. WG 500 represents an acceptance of the status quo, WG 223 represents the evolution of a better society.

The Middlebury Campus

Editor in Chief
Christopher L. Morgan

Managing Editor
Emily W. Manning

Business Manager
Peter Morgan

Advertising Manager
Matt Noble

On line Editor
Dave Selkowitz

News Editor
Nicole Miller
Lindsay Frost

Opinions Editor
Tim McCahill
Phil Wood-Smith

Sports Editor
Andrew VanBuskirk

Assistant SportsEditor
Ben Dow

Features Editor
Bob Wainwright
Jess Kassis

Photo Editors
Peter Huoppi
Josh Nothwang

Town News Editor
Jenn DeLeonardo

Arts Editors
Greg DeVito
Chat Ortved

Assistant Photo Editor
Andrew Corrigan

In-Depth Editors
Annie DeWitt
Julianne Frisbie

Head Copy Editor ..... Mark Jacobson
Copy Editor ..... Patricia Shea
Copy Editor ..... Annie Rana
Copy Editor ..... David Asarch

Technical Consultant ..... Pedro Vides
Circulation Manager ..... Garrett Dodge

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published in Middlebury, Vermont by the Student Government Association of Middlebury College. Publication is every Wednesday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on an Apple Macintosh network running QuarkXPress 3.32, and is printed by Denton Publications, Inc. at Elizabethtown, New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is Friday at 5 p.m. for the next week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Manager. Address all letters to the editor to the Opinions Editor. The Middlebury Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters and reserves the right to edit all Opinions letters. The Campus reserves the right to omit Opinions letters when there is insufficient space for all letters. The opinions expressed in the Opinions section, reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Middlebury Campus. First class postage paid at Middlebury, VT 05753. Subscription rate: $45 per year or $25 per semester within the United States; $50 per year or $30 per semester overseas.

By Simon Adams

College under attack for tenure denial

Late last semester, the College elected to deny tenure to Geology professor Kimberly Hannula. In our opinion, this decision is extraordinarily flawed and is disappointingly characteristic of Middlebury's future direction.

Kim is devoted to her students, the department, and the College. Indeed, the fact that we refer to her as "Kim," as opposed to "Professor Hannula," is indicative of the relationship Kim has with her students. Kim is one of Middlebury's finest teachers in every sense.

She is easily accessible and approachable. Kim cares more about her students and makes a greater effort to familiarize herself with them than most professors at Middlebury. In addition, her ability to convey challenging material in an interesting, thoughtful, and clear manner is unparalleled.

In denying Kim's application for tenure, the Committee on Reappointment has swiftly undermined the future of the Geology Department. Kim is an integral member of the department's faculty. Both her courses and research interests are vital to our education, creating the excellent academic atmosphere that personifies the department.

In the last year, the administration has effectively removed one tenure-track position from the department, and denying Kim is simply too much. Middlebury possesses a first rate geology program with Kim, and without her it loses a critical component.

Next time you pass through Bicentennial Hall, look under your feet. The stonework is beautiful, but without Kim's teaching, it's just another dirty floor to us.

Even beyond her positive influence on the Geology department and its students, Kim extends her energies as an active member of the entire college community. Her strong presence is clear in the strong reaction from both students and faculty; many members in all facets of the community remain upset at the administration's decision.

Moreover, the process of attaining tenure at Middlebury is inherently flawed. Kim's denial of tenure is a sure sign that the administration has misplaced priorities.

Student and departmental opinion was overlooked in the administration's decision. Based upon our observations, the administration places greater emphasis on published research than on teaching ability and influence within the community.

Did we not choose Middlebury for its identity as a small liberal arts college rather than a large research university? Kim excels as a teacher and community member, and we feel that this, along with the quality of her student and individual research, more than compensate for her supposed infrequent publications.

Finally, the Committee on Reappointment lacks any member in a science department. In this respect, we cannot help but feel that the committee has no understanding of the nature of geologic research or Kim's ability to teach the discipline.

Bicentennial Hall stands as a tall reminder that Middlebury has invested heavily in the sciences. However, without professors like Kim, the building is but an empty promise to its students and an illusory facade to onlookers.

Next time you pass through Bicentennial Hall, look under your feet. The stonework is beautiful, but without Kim's teaching, it's just another dirty floor to us.

-Joshua Cole '00, Geology major and SAC Representative, Elizabeth Hunter '00, ES/Geology major, Josh Nothwang '00, ES/Geology major and SAC Representative, Andrew Wall '99.5, ES/Geology major and the support of the entire Geology Department.

Moss advocates support for gay marriage rights

These are heady times to be gay in Vermont. The Supreme Court's decision to grant same sex couples the rights and privileges of marriage may remove the last vestiges of legal discrimination against gay & lesbian Vermonters.

It's been fascinating to watch opponents of marriage claim to favor equal treatment while they balk at expanding the marriage laws. To hear the phrase "I'm not a homophobe, but..." followed by some incredible leap of logic. In some ways, I'm not sure why the opponents are so concerned about a decision that might affect me, but will certainly not affect them in any way, presuming they're straight.

Yet the decision is indeed ground-breaking. Baker vs. State will go down in history, especially if the legislature does the right thing and approves marriage, and it's happening right here in Vermont!

I've been very impressed by the many members of the Middlebury community, gay and straight, who have participated in the discussions--traveling to Montpelier to testify, writing brilliant letters to the editor, working with the Freedom to Marry Task Force and Action Committee.

They're participating in what may be the civil rights battle of the decade.

I'd like to encourage everyone in the community to be a part of it. We live in a small state, where outside interference is discouraged. Every voice counts. Be a part of history!

-Kevin Moss is a Professor in the Russian Department.

Tofias links school's alcohol problem and the housing shortage

Let's talk about alcohol. And, in order to do this right, we need to speak honestly and realistically. Students drink. College students drank while our professors were in college, and college students will still be drinking long

Zach Tofias '00.5

after we graduate. The responsibility that Middlebury College has to its students is to create the safest atmosphere possible, within reason. To me this means a number of things. Students need to be encouraged to stay on campus, so as to eliminate the problem of drunk driving. On campus, there need to be popular activities (such as a big name concert) as well as areas available to students to have parties, so that alcohol consumption can occur in the open and not behind a locked dorm room door.

To accomplish any of these goals, first and foremost seniors need to be accommodated so that they will stay on campus. I see drunk driving as the single most dangerous by-product of alcohol consumption. That said, seniors should live on campus, in housing that is desirable. Currently there is not enough senior housing on campus. The school's answer: tear up A-lots and build a dorm. Seniors don't need more dorms, yet the school needs more parking. The school should be building 5-15 bed small houses to accommodate the seniors. By building these houses the school would provide an area where seniors would have a level of independence that does not exist in a dorm. While I dislike the commons, separate cul-de-sacs of these small houses could be built for each commons. As a student unaffiliated with any social house, the houses provide a very necessary social outlet on this campus, something that the commons can not hope to recreate.

Currently the commons is creating more of a dangerous drinking atmosphere by taking lounges that had currently been available for parties and placing very expensive furniture there. This is prohibitive for parties because the party host will be charged if any damage occurs to the expensive furniture. This is exactly the wrong direction for the school to be going. Students need to be encouraged to host parties, and the school should allow the host discretion in determining the amount of alcohol at their party. The current limit of alcohol is one of the many reasons that students are drawn off campus.

At registered parties, security makes sure that everything is okay. Yet the administration is very hard on party hosts who serve underage students, thus some underage students feel forced to preload, taking shots prior to showing up at a party. This is dangerous. Realistic steps need to be taken so that students don't feel forced and socially compelled to drink unhealthily in small groups in their dorm rooms.

What it comes down to, is the level of respect that the school is willing to provide to the students, especially those of age. Enrollment has been increased, yet no parking has been added, and the only real housing solution is sitting on cinderblocks on the outskirts of a parking lot.

Still the problem remains that students flock to off campus parties or drink dangerously in their rooms. No student should ever die or be hospitalized due to alcohol related reasons on this campus. In order to ensure that, the school should move away from being an alcohol police force, trying to prohibit beer pong in senior houses and the social houses, and should be more worried about drunk driving, dangerous preloading and the lack of areas available for registerable parties.

The Grille would have made an excellent option as an on campus area to safely drink. Currently it is a poor excuse for anything that might be interpreted as a bar. Go up to any of the deans or CRAs that you see at Dollar Drafts on Wednesday night and ask them why they are not drinking (socially of course) at the Grille. Really, why should the school force its students off campus, when there was and still is a perfect opportunity to have a similar establishment on campus?

One answer given to reject any of the aforementioned ideas is that the cost of implementation is too great. I find it very difficult to talk about student safety in quantitative terms of dollars and cents. I'm sure that it will be less costly, emotionally and fiscally, than dealing with a student whose alcohol related death could have been avoided.

I certainly don't want to demonize the administration. In fact, I have spoken with many administrators who would love to see the drinking age lowered, so as to bring about safer student drinking on campus. Yet that is not going to happen any time soon, and the current theme of pushing the problem off campus is not any sort of an answer. It is only raising the stakes and increasingly the likelihood that something bad will happen. The school has the responsibility to provide an atmosphere that is safe. An effect of this would be to keep drinking on campus, an inherently safer place thanks in large part to our campus safety officers and heath center.

I encourage all students to be responsible when and if they choose to drink, and I insist that the administration be realistic when they address Middlebury's alcohol problem.

Crystal questions winter graduation

This past Sunday I officially became a senior. Though I have been posing as one all year, I didn't formally earn this ranking until last week, when I stood on a snowy hill watching

Jen Crystal '00.5

some of my best friends as well as my Feb leaders ski down and become Middlebury alum.

It was great to watch the first graduating class of the millennium celebrate their big day, and I couldn't have been more excited for my friends who finally finished the tribulations of theses, comps, and last final exams at Middlebury. But the day also filled me with a sense of anxiety as the bittersweet reality settled in: one full year left at Middlebury.

One year left. The thought shadowed my thoughts in the few hours after Feb graduation, as I watched Middlebury's newest alum rush around campus, hurriedly trying to say good-bye in the less-than-24-hour time period they had left before having to check out. The idea gnawed at my conscience as I watched the graduates wander around campus taking last pictures. As I watched the Febs on my hall stay up all night in an effort to pack and be out of their rooms by noon on Sunday, I couldn't help but think, that's me in a year.

I listened as one of these Febs sat on his floor, surrounded by boxes and packing tape, singing the Alma Mater over and over for more than an hour. Some may call this student's reaction to the closure of his Middlebury experience extreme; I say it is more than understandable. He'd most likely spent the last week pulling all-nighters to finish a thesis, trying to cram in Feb dinners and parties at some point during the evening. Then, on Friday, exhausted by the completion of his work, he'd gone to the Feb dinner with his parents, perhaps attending a quick get-together with fellow Feb friends afterwards. Not for too long, though, because he had to be up bright and early the next morning for the commencement ceremony in Mead Chapel, followed by a final, celebratory run at the Snow Bowl, topped off by refreshments at the Waybury Inn.

And that was it. Twenty-four hours later, Middlebury was suddenly done. Graduation had come and gone, and he had to be out by noon the following day.

And that was it. Twenty-four hours later, Middlebury was suddenly done. Graduation had come and gone, and he had to be out by noon the following day.

I would have had a hard time dealing with this whirlwind closure, too. I probably would have sat in my room, unwilling to fathom that my last class and my college graduation had transpired within a twenty-four period, too.

I don't want to be that Feb. I look ahead at my graduation a year from now and pray I will be among the lucky few whose J-Term class happens to end before Friday, so that I might have more than one day to try and sum up my four years at Middlebury.

The Feb turnaround is far too fast. We come in to Middlebury with a five-day period set aside for the purpose of becoming acquainted with our new surroundings and, more importantly, for getting to know our classmates. Similarly, the May graduates leave Middlebury with a week-long period set aside to ease out the time between finals and graduation and, most importantly, to allow the senior class one final week together.

Unfortunately, the Feb graduates do not get this sort of closure. Yes, we can attend May Senior Week, which I certainly intend to do in order to spend as much time as possible with my "Reg" friends. But it is not really my Senior Week. It simply leads in to the second semester of my senior year next fall.

I recognize the fact that new Febs arrive on the Wednesday of Feb break, and that Custodial Services therefore needs adequate time to clean the rooms of graduating Febs. Therefore an entire Senior Week for Febs is not possible. However, a few Senior Days wouldn't hurt. The majority of incoming Febs do not move into the rooms of graduating Febs, which are predominantly senior housing; most of those rooms go to students returning from abroad, the majority of whom probably don't come back to campus until the weekend before spring term begins anyway, thus affording Custodial Services more time to clean those particular rooms. Ideally, Feb graduation could be moved to Tuesday, giving the Febs three full days between their last day of classes and graduation. Of course, this would be difficult for many family members wanting to attend the event. But at least the celebration could be pushed back until Sunday; one day is better than nothing. Or why not offer Febs the option of completing their J-Term work by the last Wednesday of classes, making Thursday and Friday Senior Days?

I do not know if any or all of these suggestions are feasible. I do know that twenty-four hours is not enough to bring closure to an amazing four years. I hope for the sake of the Feb classes that succeed mine that some change is effected, lest we all wind up like my poor neighbor.

Choi examines Midd Kid stereotypes

It was a rainy August night in Iowa City. After a long week of work, I decided to enjoy my Friday by watching second-rate television programming, enjoying Chicago-style pizza and drinking

Danny Choi '01

cold German beer.

I was in Iowa engaged in a summer research program in neurobiology. In other words, it was science camp. I was the only person from an elite college from the Northeast. And so, I felt rather good about myself, rather smug.

Enjoying my casual Friday, I put my feet on a coffee table when two other research fellows walked by. Appalled, they immediately chastised me. One of them said, "You really do go to Middlebury, don't you?" I thought nothing of the comment at the moment, but it kept bugging me. Later on, unable to enjoy myself, I asked the research fellow what she meant.

Rather annoyed, she told me that I exemplify the Middlebury image— the idea of a Midd Kid. I'm spoiled and show a lack of concern for those around me— I put my feet on the coffee table. And I'm a happy, go-lucky lush— I drank German beer.

This was utterly shocking. I never identified myself as spoiled and never as a hardcore drinker. Insulted beyond belief, I was pinned to a wall with those words.This J-Term break, I spent some time at my local bookstore. I headed for the Arts and Architecture section when I noticed a slew of college guides. I hadn't seen one of those in three years. And so, I decided to look through some of them.

These books seem to have a general consensus on Middlebury. "Middlebury is full of very rich people and they are as happy as clams." "The average student cares a lot about grades and physical appearance." "What's Hot - hard liquor and beer. What's Not - religion and political activism (almost)."

In summary, we're a bunch of alcoholic yuppies in training— smart, hardworking, and attractive, but a bit spoiled and a tad of a lush.

Wow— My Friday night in Iowa made perfect sense.

A few weeks ago, Jason Oleet and Blake Rutherford argued that college students LOVE alcohol and they will do anything to have some. Furthermore, there is nothing anyone can do to separate the two - college students and drinking are two birds of a feather.

So, here is the point of all of this — stereotypes are bad.

I was annoyed at the Iowan research fellow, the college manuals, and now, Jason Oleet and Blake Rutherford. All of them, quite dangerously, perpetuate a terrible image of Middlebury.

A few weeks ago, I had a conversation with a few people in which I argued that people at Middlebury - including myself - don't read enough. A sophomore sharply criticized me - of course, people read. A lot of people read a lot of books. He argued party-hardy students, who sit in the middle of Proctor ogling everything that breaths, are a minority. That though they are exemplified as the typical Midd Kid, they are not. This brings me back to my original point. I don't understand why anyone of us allows the minority - party-hardy oglers - to represent the majority. In other words, why do we let this terrible stereotyping go on? A lot of it, of course, is our own fault. We let stupid claims - like Midd Kids and alcohol go hand in hand - slip into our unconscious. There, they become ingrained into our percep-

(see Critical, page 8)

Loew and Zwerdling challenge college to butress verbal support

Dr. Elaine Bernard, director of the Harvard University Trade Union Program, is fond of saying that rights are hollow and useless without a vehicle for enforcement. As Bernard would say, one can be issued the right to drive, but standing on the highway with a license won't get you anywhere without a car. Similarly, a governing body can pay lip-service to certain rights, but without a mechanism or structure to serve as a vehicle for safeguarding these rights, they are useless.

Cori Loew '02.5 and Alex Zwerdling '00

Currently, Middlebury College is standing on the proverbial highway with a license but no car when it comes to the issue of human and worker rights. When President John McCardell signed a Code of Conduct to protect the rights of sweatshop workers sewing Middlebury College apparel last year, he established the document as college policy and, by extension, affirmed the College's commitment to ethical workplace standards. In January, the President was offered a vehicle by which to enforce these standards, and we challenge him to accept it.

Dr. Bernard is among the dozens of academics, labor leaders, and non-profit organizations that support the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC), to serve as the vehicle for enforcing the Code. (The WRC, incidentally, is a cheap car, costing the College only $1000). Certainly Dr. Bernard would agree that Middlebury College's commitment to ending sweatshop labor is worthless without joining the WRC to protect the rights of laborers making Middlebury apparel.

The WRC is only plan for independent monitoring endorsed by international non-governmental organizations, labor groups, human rights organizations, religious groups, and the workers themselves. With its goal being the empowerment of laborers in the workplace, the WRC allows sweatshop workers the facility to stand up for their rights. It is also the only factory monitoring plan consistent with Middlebury College policy, as stated in the Apparel Manufacturer's Code of Conduct. The Code allows the College enlist independent monitors to ensure that the companies are indeed following our regulations.

And despite the fact that President McCardell has publicly stated that he has "a willingness to make sure [requiring ethical standards of manufacturers] gets done right" (Campus, Dec. 1), day after day passes without enforcement of our own school's policy. "Getting things done right" at Middlebury, if the past serves as an indication of the future, takes a long time. In fact, too long, especially when we're talking about serious "things" – like the rights of workers. Months of bureaucratic decision-making processes and a profound lack of urgency often plague the implementation of initiatives other than those developed by the administration. We fully expect the WRC initiative will be different. Several campus and community groups will be working in tandem in the coming weeks to ensure that Middlebury College will join the WRC by March 1, 2000.

It makes a lot of sense for Middlebury to join the WRC now. It will give our administration a seat at the table at the inaugural WRC meeting in April, a forum where colleges and universities will be able to amend the organization's governing documents. It also would give Middlebury College – and not an outside actor – the authority to decide how to sanction manufacturers who do not live up to strict labor standards.

But the decision to join, not surprisingly, is up to the administration, not the dozens of students at Middlebury who have studied and engaged this issue for well over a year. By March 1, 2000, we expect that the right decision will be made.

Marc Zelnick questions Provost and progressives

Some Things Considered
by Marc Zelnick

J-Term found me enjoying myself on paid Campus leave, so it was with a relaxed attitude that I met with Chris "my father donated a horse farm to get me into this place" Morgan on Monday to discuss the paper and my future there. We met at Chris' favorite nightspot, The Grille, where he was wearing a pink "Bauer for President" wife-beater T. He was eating vegetarian sushi complaining all the while that the meal was "a little too radioactive." Following his exotic fare, he left me at the table to go smoke what he described as "one ordinary and unlaced cigarette." After he had been gone for about a half hour, I decided to go search for him, and found him on McCullough Green chasing the northern lights. I caught up with him near Voter and asked if he wanted to go inside where it was warm, but the now paranoid editor would have nothing to do with the idea.

He accused me of being an undercover federal agent, screaming, "You're not going to feed me to any computer, you NARC!" Then his terror heightened to the point where he clutched to me asking how much time he would have to serve if, say, he accidentally tripped and fell onto some drugs, accidentally. I left him engrossed in a heated argument with a lopsided snowman he built over which Hanson brother was the most musically talented.

This past month, a provost of the college sat down with a green parisian drink and a Boston Globe reporter to discuss the future of J-Term at Middlebury. Such a grievous administrative transgression begs but one overarching question: What is a provost, why is it here, and how do we rid ourselves of the scourge?

I don't know the answer, but I do have the solution. I propose a gladiator contest to the death, with snipers up in the rafters, and tigersharks swimming around the fighters who are wielding crossbows and shooting poisoned darts at one another. And there's anthrax too. This match will be aired on CBS, the old people's network. Whichever provost wins gets to talk to the Globe, but only on Leap Years and only in Pig Latin. Whichever provost loses is trapped in the suntan-bedless Olde Chapel bell tower. . . . .forever.

This week the president/founder of the Progressive Club returned from a month of sticking it to "the man" in D.C. and wasted no time in causing more trouble on our once peaceful campus. Evidently tired of attacking MOQA and FAM boards, the Progressives mobilized on one of the Ridgeline Wood houses, chanting something about a living wage and taking from the house a composite and all the alt. food and bevs. Allegedly, the marchers had snowballs but did not use them. The members of the house are calling for violent action against the president of the Progressives. All are advised to be on alert for a squattish, smoking man who looks like a cross between Jesus and Trotsky (the two most famous progressives to ever be shot in Mexico). You are asked not to approach the perpetrator as he is a socialist, but to instead call Security immediately. If he does approach you with promises of a utopia through unionization and collective farming, don't be fooled; blind him quickly with some GAP apparel or the business section of any respectable newspaper and make your escape.

The news brief: MCAB, in a desperate attempt to overhaul its image, has diversified into writing implements, generously providing each and every student with their very own MCAB embossed unsharpened pencil, leading many to ask, "Where do they keep getting the money for all these great ideas?" WRMC has juiced up its wattage to expand its listening area in an effort to decrease Emma Willard's applicant numbers from the greater Burlington area. The SGA got furiously drunk two weeks ago and decided to change the position of Student Body Vice-President to that of Student Chair of Community Council; the Forest Senator did three keg stands.

Maria Carey hates Williams, but not as much as I hate ballet.

Hommeyer questions tenure decision

Visitors to Middlebury College's web site are greeted by a salvo of attractively designed, well-structured eye candy. Virtually everything anyone would want to know about the

Matthew Hommeyer '01

College is available if one knows where to look; from athletic scores and exam schedules to features on the Commons Plan and our newest pride and joy, Bicentennial Hall.

Having just wrapped up my most recent wrestling match with MARS, I've spent a considerable amount of time cruising around the Undergraduate College page. This page is augmented by a photo of a professor in the field, instructing her students in the use of a Brunton compass. As I'm sure the folks in PR will be thrilled to hear, I think it's a lovely little window into the nature of the professor/student relationship I've enjoyed while majoring in geology. The picture was obviously intended to be a microcosm of good teaching, and I always got a kick out of it because the professor taught in my major.

It was with an awful mixture of shock and disbelief, then, that I learned that on Friday, December 10, the College elected to deny tenure to Professor Kim Hannula. Kim sent all of us in her Structural Geology class an email informing us of the decision. For the first few lines, I thought she was kidding. After finishing it, I felt as though I'd been kicked in the gut.

Although there has been some debate regarding the motives for the College's decision, I feel that speculating about proceedings that will never be fully disclosed is inappropriate. However, I cannot conceive of a plausible set of circumstances that would reasonably justify the dismissal of one of the finest teachers I have ever had at any level of education. Very few people bring the sort of enthusiastic spirit and depth of knowledge that Kim possesses to any profession, much less teaching geology. Her sparkling qualifications aside, it was her love of teaching and acute concern for her students that made her so special, something that will be exceedingly difficult, perhaps impossible, to replace.

I think I speak for the vast majority of the student body when I say that I chose to attend Middlebury College because it is just that, a college. The promise of direct interaction with professors was paramount in my decision, an attribute that is severely compromised should an institution choose instead to focus on other peripheral aspects of a professor's portfolio such as research and publication. This yields professors who, although distinguished, are often preoccupied and inaccessible. Kim is precisely the opposite. Despite the excellence of her research work, she is approachable perhaps to a fault. The principle thrust of her teaching has always been the growth and welfare of her students, but her dismissal is demonstrative of the sad reality that the College does not share her devotion.

On the face of it, it seems the College has suffered from a critical failure of perspective. The chief responsibility of any institution like Middlebury must be to its students, or more accurately, the continued quality of their education. The basis of this commitment is necessarily grounded in the quality of the institution's faculty. No single factor has a greater impact. The regrettable decision to effectively remove Kim raises serious questions about the College's dedication to what is, in the end, its very foundation.

That we recently committed upwards of fifty million dollars to a state-of-the-art science facility is commendable, but that building will be a very hollow edifice indeed without the accompanying top-notch faculty to populate it. To put it another way, if I had to choose between the Middlebury

I find myself at today and the one that included Kim and "Old Science," I would most certainly pick the latter. In short, the fact that Kim will not be teaching here much longer is not in my best interests, nor those of other Geology majors. In this dreadful decision, the College has failed us in every sense of the word, and now finds itself with at least one member of a neglected department who is decidedly livid.

Critical "yuppie image" examined by Danny Choi

(continued from page 7)

tion of Middlebury. The College's willingness to allow this to occur is the root of a lot of Middlebury's problems. First and foremost, the feeling of "otherness." If you're a Middlebury student and you're not a party-hardy ogler, you're not really a Middlebury student - a Midd Kid. (This should remind you of Columbine.) Second, the lack of diversity. Of course, Middlebury is diverse. It's rich in variation, but most of us are too busy assuming that everyone at Middlebury is exactly like the other. I have no idea what to do about this, for I am - like the vast chunk of you - indoctrinated. Yes, you heard me right - you're indoctrinated just like a Stalinist bureaucrat. So, here is the take home message: shame on us. Just like yuppies (and Stalinist bureaucrats), we become a part of a machine — an ugly self-perpetuating machine. And of course, we get sick of it. But then again, there is dirty little secret a lot of us possess.

No matter how much we criticize Middlebury - like I am doing here - we secretly love it. We love the stereotypes. No matter what negative things college manuals say about Middlebury, people apply.

No matter how marginalized people feel, they keep coming back after each semester. No matter what an Iowan research fellow might say, I feel smug. Sure yuppies lead shallow, meaningless, money, status, and power hungry lives, but they carry around really nice cell phones.

Bicentennial celebration caps theatre in coming semester

By Julie Culver
Staff Writer

In a timely coincidence, Middlebury theatre is opening the 21st century with a Spring season retrospective of 20th century theatre. Although predominantly from the latter half of the century, the plays do include Tennessee Williams's ethereal American classic "A Streetcar Named Desir," and "Therese Raquin" a new adaptation of an Emile Zola story. Not surprisingly, the more contemporary plays are being produced by students. The students' work will cover a wide range of forms and genres from Harold Pinter's 1960 exploration of friendship and betrayal in "The Dwarfs" through British playwright Martin Crimp's experimental script "Attempts on Her Life" first produced in 1996 and up to the premieres of student-written plays and collage pieces.

Counting the numerous Department of Theatre/Dance and Film faculty and student productions, independent Zoo projects and club productions, at least 15 productions are scheduled from February to May.

Continuing the Bicentennial Celebration for which the Department of Theatre/Dance and Film has brought in guest artists and alumni to act, direct and design, guest artist Jim Petosa will be directing "Therese Raquin" in the Studio Theatre March 9th-through March 11th. Petosa has had a very fruitful relationship with the college as an affiliate of the annual Potomac Theatre Project (PTP) in which several students are given the opportunity to intern with theatre professionals over the summer. This production will give three Middlebury design majors the opportunity to work with him at Middlebury: Raquel Davis '00 will design the lights, Matt Soule '00 will work on the set and recent graduate Deb Sivigny '00.5 will create the costumes.

This academic year's theatre Bicentennial Celebration will end in Wright Theatre April 20th to April 23rd, with Richard Romagnoli's production of "A Streetcar Named Desire" starring recent graduate Tyson Lien and visiting professor Andrea Schaefer. However, the Bicentennial Celebration only comprises a fraction of the theatrical offerings this semester.

The semester is off to a quick start with this weekend's Hepburn Zoo Theatre showcase of Kate Michelson '00.5 and Rich Price's '00.5 senior work. Two zany one-acts by Christopher Durang, "Funeral Parlor" and "Wanda's Visi,", and a collage piece entitled "Watching the Nuclear Family Explode" make up their joint production.

David Barreda

Senior Kirk German wrote and directed "Leave it to Beverly," which appeared in Hepburn Zoo last semester.

Director Meg Taintor (of last semester's "And Baby Makes Seven") is bringing another feminist play to the Middlebury College stage. "The Vagina Monologues," written by Eve Ensler '75 will be performed on Valentine's Day for the second year running. This year, this daring play will be performed in Wright Theatre (a huge improvement over McCullough) with a cast of 13, six of whom are retained from last year's successful performance.

The eagerly anticipated annual musical from the Middlebury College Musical Players promises "tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight" the following week-end, February 17th-to February 20th on the McCullough stage. Director Abi Butler '00, conductor Hitoshi Yamaguchi, musical advisor Jeff Rehbach and a talented cast promise to deliver an evening of hilarity with their rendition of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," Sondheim's musical version of Plautus' second century B.C. Roman play. Also that weekend, do not to miss another in the series of energetic, experimental performances by the college's underground experimental theatre group, ITE.

Similarly experimental, April 1st April 9th in the Hepburn Zoo will feature Soule's loosely adapted version of Beckett's spare waste land "Waiting for Godot." Next up, running concurrently with "Therese Raquin" is "A Weekend Near Madison" by Kathleen Tolin. As an independent Zoo show, seasoned director Julia Millstein 02 will direct this naturalistic drama which loosely follows the life of folk singer Holly Neer.

Next up in the Zoo, from April 6th to April 7th will be Frank Labovitz's full-length directing debut.) He opens the season of departmentally sponsored senior work with his production of the Harold Pinter one-act, "The

(see Theatre, page 12)

Ben Harper keeps concert personal

By Ethan French
Staff Writer

The Memorial Auditorium in Burlington was filled last Friday night with people coming to hear the music of Ben Harper and his band The Innocent Criminals. The concert was the third I've seen Ben play.

The first time I heard his soft raspy voice was about four years ago; there was something about the sound that came through his slide guitar and the confident pleading words that all sort of rung through me. I think what has made me such a fan of Ben's music is its originality. Ben's music has a host of poignant messages in its lyrics as well as a distinct sound which come together to solidify this originality. Harper, in an interview with Rolling Stone, said that his music draws on the people he grew up listening to, people such as Jimi Hendrix and Bob Marley, and blends their styles with his own. I too grew up in appreciation of these musicians, and I think listening to Ben is what it must have been like to hear Jimi before he'd been fully recognized by the music world.

I saw him first perform at a small venue near Bloomington, Indiana. At the time I was too young to get in legally. However, I found the music compelling enough to find an alternate avenue of admittance. When I got in I made my way to the main floor and took stock of the instruments present. There was the standard drum set at stage left and a percussion set of hand played drums at stage right. In the middle of these was an elevated platform with a couple of amps, a guitar stand, and a chair. What really got my attention, though, was the flock of twelve or so guitars way over to stage right. Not only were there several guitars standing upright in their stands, but many of them looked really weird. There were some standard acoustic guitars, and then a bunch of these strange looking things, sort of like big violins. Since then I've learned a bit more about Ben, and what might then have seemed an excessive display of mysterious instruments now only seems a testament to the uniqueness of his music.

The strange guitars I saw are a specific type of guitar with a hollow neck called Weissenborn guitars made in the 20s. Apparently Ben is pretty stuck on their design and their sound. In concert, you'll see Ben change guitars quite often. He tunes each one differently because his songs range from acoustic, to the Weissenborn (also acoustic) played with a slide on his lap, to a double necked electric guitar. On Friday he opened with "Burn to Shine," a song off of his most recent album of the same name.

While many musicians today play a majority of their songs in standard tuning, Ben often uses an open C and sometimes alternate tunings which I'm still trying to figure out. Harper's failure to conform to standard tuning as well as the standard approach to the music world is something I find utterly refreshing. You won't hear Ben's music played too much on the radio, and you won't see him on MTV choreographing his next dance video. To me he seems like a real, genuine person, and he doesn't stray very far from his music or its message.

When I entered the theater on Friday, the crowd was an interesting melange tending towards high school and college aged people. The crowd had an air of the young bohemian among them. In the opening set Ben played songs from all of his albums, including "Burn One Down" and a version of "Excuse Me Mister," which borrowed lyrics from a Bob Marley song.

The opening set also included the new song "Always have to steal my kisses from you" in which members of the band provided a freestyle type rap beat using vocals and a wooden box as their only instruments. After completing the opening set,

Ben and the band took a short break. Within a minute of their having left the stage, the audience was roaring with applause and raising lighters in anticipation of more music. Harper greeted this enthusiasm warmly, returning to the stage alone to play a set of slow acoustic songs including "Walk Away" and a version of the Pearl Jam song "Indifference."

After this set of rather soft songs with lyrics that brought the audience to silent awe, Harper left the stage once more, and for the second time the audience whistled and applauded until he took the stage for a final encore set. During the encore he played several songs including an unreleased song, "Forever," "Ground on Dow,", and a version of "Sexual Healing" which was loudly received.

Ben played the majority of the show sitting down with an occasional burst of added vocal energy. This mellow style of performance requires the audience to pay attention to the music and the lyrics rather than to simply watch the artist perform. Over the three years in which I have attended Harper's shows I've noticed him become more and more comfortable with his audience and his own ability to interact with them. At one point in Friday's performance, Harper discussed his view of religion saying, "I'm more of a God loving atheist than anything."

The show, like Harper's music, was very personal, and while those who went to see a spectacle might have been disappointed, those who went to be inspired went away with plenty of food for thought.

Museum applauds art of alumni and faculty

By Chat Ortved
Arts Editor

"The theme of the spring, I guess, is bicentennial, bicentennial, bicentennial," says Emmie Donadio, associate director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art. This semester, the Museum is celebrating the College's Bicentennial with three exhibitions. "50 Years: Faculty Art at Middlebury," which is currently on view in the Christian A. Johnson Memorial Gallery, "focuses on some 40 works by 15 artists who have taught generations of Middlebury students."

The exhibition includes paintings by Arthur K.D. Healy and Robert Reiff, two artists who have had a profound impact on the college studio art program, as well as on the careers of artists that have graduated, as well as prints by David Bumbeck. Furthermore, works by current studio art faculty Suzanne Bocanegra, Jim Butler, John Huddleston, and Eric Nelson will be displayed.

Two sculptors who worked on campus as Christian A. Johnson Visiting Distinguished Professors of Art also appear in the exhibition. "'Crazy Horse,' a molten bronze abstraction by Isaac Witkin, is composed of warmly colored, biomorphic elements welded together. 'Way Station II' was intended to be the first permanent structure by sculptor and performance artist Vito Acconci, who taught on campus during winter term 1983," said Donadio. Apparently, the work was exceedingly controversial and was torched on graduation weekend three years after its completion.

According to Donadio's statement, "the Museum and the Committee on Art in Public Places at Middlebury are interested in reassembling, restoring, and reinstalling the Acconci work. Some of its remains—panels that read 'Go A Dog,' (letters from the originally installed 'God,' 'Man,' 'Dog')— are on view in the exhibition, alongside a panel depicting the original and describing its brief history."

Two soft sculptures by internationally known fiber artist Sheila Hicks are also on display at "50 years." Perhaps the most impressive, a "monumental installation called 'Turmoil in Full Bloom,' lives

(see Museum, page 12)

Spring music offers much opportunity

By Kate Robinson
Staff Writer

In the life of a college student, the coming of a new term inspires more resolutions than the commencement of the New Year. As we begin to grasp the amount of wasted time and fallen ambition of the fall semester, we find our second wind. We hope it's more than a wheeze.

Spring semester is our fresh start. We will join committees. We will finally find the pool. We will become one with the stacks. We will enlighten ourselves with a weekly jaunt to the CFA.

Cultural Opportunities abound at the Center for the Arts this semester. Be inspired. Be Grateful. Be on your way.

The Music Department has launched a spring music program that will tempt one of these lofty expectations to remain high. Jazz enthusiasts will not be able to resist a special Bicentennial appearance of Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra on April 29, and Broadway hounds should no doubt appreciate the Middlebury College Choir's rendition of "West Side Story," on March 4.

Combined, the Concert Series and the Bicentennial treats make the CFA a worthy spring term destination. Unearth your calendars and write down some dates.

This upcoming weekend, featured soprano Sari Gruber will take the stage, accompanied by pianist Cameron Stowe at 8:00 p.m., on Friday, February 11. Stowe has sung with the New York City and Los Angeles Operas. Opera magazine deemed her, "nothing short of sensational."

On February 13 at 8:00 p.m., the Krijoso Trio will be presenting "Connections," an improvisational performance of jazz and world music. Kristina Reiko Cooper on cello, Sonia Jacobsen, the composer, on soprano saxophone and Joel Sachs on piano highlight the musical backgrounds of Malaysia, Azerbajian and Venezuela. It is free and will be a great way to escape the cold and experience a bit of some different, perhaps warmer cultures.

The Concert Series presents the Wu Han (piano), Pamela Frank (violin) and Yeesun Kim (cello) trio on February 19, at 8:00 p.m. They will be playing pieces by Haydn and Tchaikovsky.

The Concert Series will continue with song cycles by Debussy and Jorge Martin, performed by baritone Sanford Sylvan and pianist David Breitman on March 2 at 7:30 p.m.

The Jets and the Sharks will be brought back to life by the Middlebury College Choir and conductor François Clemmons in a production of a variety of selections from Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story." Carol Christensen and Dan Marcy repeat their roles as star-crossed lovers in this free performance at 8 p.m. on March 4.

John Milsom will conduct the Middlebury College Chamber Choir in their last performance preceding their European tour on March 10, at 8:00 p.m.

Sarah Klemm '00 will be giving a horn recital, accompanied by pianist Christopher Molina, on March 11 at 8:00 p.m.

"The Clemmons Consort," will be a free program given by tenor François Clemmons, pianist Jeff Marder, flutist Sean Schulich and percussionist Robert DiPietro on March 15 at 8 p.m. They will present the work of Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein.

April Fool's Day will feature a free student cabaret, "Ragtime," at 8 p.m.

The Concert Series' next presentation is on April 5 at 7:30 p.m., with Steve Reich and Musicians' attempt to produce a "euphoria" in its listeners. They will be performing Reich's own compositions.

Another special Bicentennial presentation will occur April 8, at 8 p.m. The Middlebury Chamber Soloists will give "Music Around 1800," performing the hottest names in music at the birth of the College: Haydn, Mozart, and the young Viennese firebrand, Beethoven. Highlighting the concert will be one of Mozart's last compositions, the rarely heard "Little Masonic Cantata," a celebration of learning, reason and brotherhood.

A matinee recital will be given at 3 p.m. on April 9 by soprano Heather Reichert 01 and flutist Christina Whitten 03.

Anna Benvenuto and Angie Smith 00will perform vocally in Le Chateau on April 14 at 8p.m.

There will be Bicentennial "Alumni Musical Gala," on April 15th, at 8:00. Famous alumni from orchestral and opera stages around the world will gather to perform with the Middlebury College Orchestra, and members of the applied faculty in a collaborative extravaganza. Evan Bennett will direct this free production.

"Of today's touring celebrity pianists, Ohlsson is the most comprehensively satisfying," says Richard Dyer of the Boston

(see Music, page 12)

Mike Kautz
Professor Su Lian Tan and Mark Christensen played last semester in the CFA.

Flynn Theatre features "Pig Act"

By Chat Ortved
Arts Editor

Adult puppet theater has a well established home in Vermont. "Bread and Puppet" has brought at least a faithful cult audience to the genre and remains a cornerstone of the industry. Now, opening at Burlington's Flynn Theatre, Putney, Vermont's Sandglass Theater is presenting its new production, "The Pig Act."

Sandglass Theater has chosen to present Eric and Ines Zeller Bass' "Pig Act" for its "haunting visual imagery, beautifully crafted figures, and humor," claims a press release provided by the Flynn Theatre. It proceeds to describe the production as exploring "the theme of survival in an ever-changing world." An interesting notion, though one might claim that things may change more slowly in Vermont than in other places. "A small being comes into the world of a circus tent with a talent to play a haunting concerto on two sticks. When his instrument is unexpectedly destroyed, the small being turns to a risky act, the 'pig act,' which each time it is performed becomes more and more dangerous, pushing him further to the margins of existence."

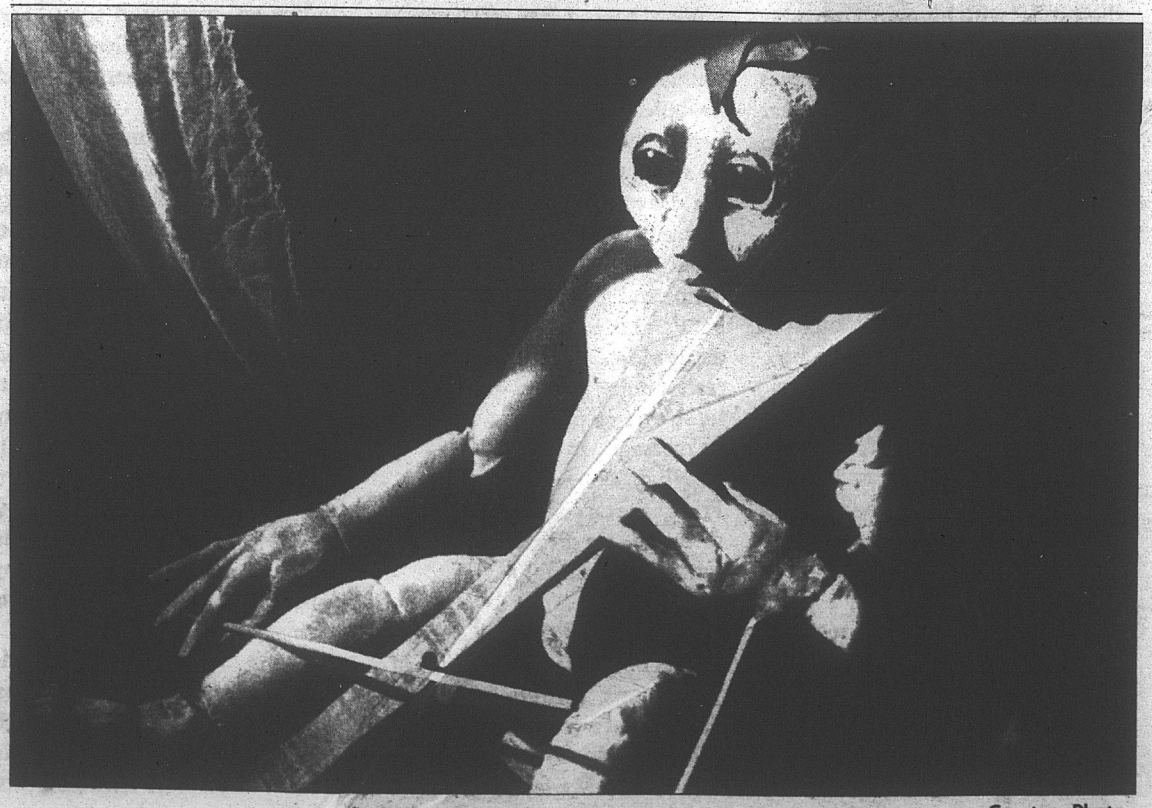
Thus appears the plot summary in the press release. It is interesting that the writers limit the world to the confines of a circus tent, the disappearance of music bringing about a reliance on danger and risk to justify existence. As for the small being's actions pushing it to "the margins of existence," it remains to be seen what the consequences thereof may be.

Eric Bass and his wife Ines Zeller Bass founded Sandglass Theater in Munich in 1982. After moving to Vermont in 1986, they participated in various festivals, including the Jim Henson Festival of Puppetry, at which they were awarded a Citation of Excellence. Other productions have received rave reviews in the past. The Village Voice, in reference to "Autumn Portraits," exclaimed "that Bass can conjure so much history and soul out of a two-foot puppet is its own mystery."

Mysteries aside, according to the Flynn Theatre, "each of us has a 'pig act' which we perform, juggling some aspect of our lives in order to survive. It can be just in that moment, when our most desperate act seems to fail, that we find the strongest sense of being in this world." Such a statement of universal relevance may be slightly exaggerated.

However, the reviews are excellent, and adult puppet theatre in general is worth at least a look, if not for the drama then at least for the beauty of the puppets and passion of the puppeteers.

"The Pig Act" is playing at the Flynn Theatre Thursday, February 17 and Friday, February 18, both nights at 8 p.m. The Flynn Theatre is located in Burlington, VT at 153 Main Street. For more information, call (802) 652-4500.



Courtesy Photo
Vermont's Sandglass Theater in Burlington presents its production "The Pig Act" next week on February 17 and 18.

Small is beautiful. Really.

Small classes. Small campus. So what? Personalized attention. Not just from your mentor, from everybody at CGU—distinguished faculty and helpful staff alike. Check us out at *www.cgu.edu*, then call or e-mail for admissions info.

Focusing On You

Claremont Graduate University • 170 East Tenth Street • Claremont, CA 91711-6163
(877) 248-4642 • fax (909) 607-7285 • e-mail: admiss@cgu.edu

Musical Players poised for memorable performance of "Forum"

By Chat Ortved
Arts Editor

Stephen Sondheim remains one of the greatest names in the industry of musical theatre. He is the lyricist of the acclaimed "West Side Story," a collaboration with Leonard Bernstein, among others, and the pen behind the music and lyrics of such successful Broadway musicals as "Gypsy," "Into the Woods" and, of course, the ever popular and soon to be appearing on the McCullough stage at Middlebury, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

"A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum" opened May 8, 1962 at the Alvin Theatre where it ran for 964 performances, finally closing on August 29, 1964. Based on a book by Larry Gelbart and Burt Shevelove, it has won a wide array of Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Producer, Best Book, Best Director and Best Actor in a Musical. Now, at Middlebury, almost forty years after its opening, the cast and crew seem poised for a memorable performance.

The leaders of the production and members of the Middlebury College Musical Players (MCMP), director/producer Abi Butler '00, conductor Hitoshi Yamaguchi '02 and musical advisor Jeff Rehbach, Middlebury College's director of information technology "will head a cast of energetic performers from the college and community in MCMP's largest production to date," claims a recent press release.

In the past couple of years, the Musical Players have performed "The Fantasticks" and the famous and acclaimed "Godspell," a musical by another big name of broadway, Stephen Schwartz. According to the press release, since 1995, the musical players have "provided a creative outlet for students and faculty to explore the realm of musical theater." The musical players have also included various other community members, reaching beyond the college and into the town.

"A Funny Thing," the largest and perhaps most difficult production ever attempted by MCMP, illustrates the success the Musical Players have had in both attracting members and increasing talent and ambition.

The group chose this particular work "in part because it is a hilarious show. It leaves audiences literally in tears from the laughter," said director Butler.

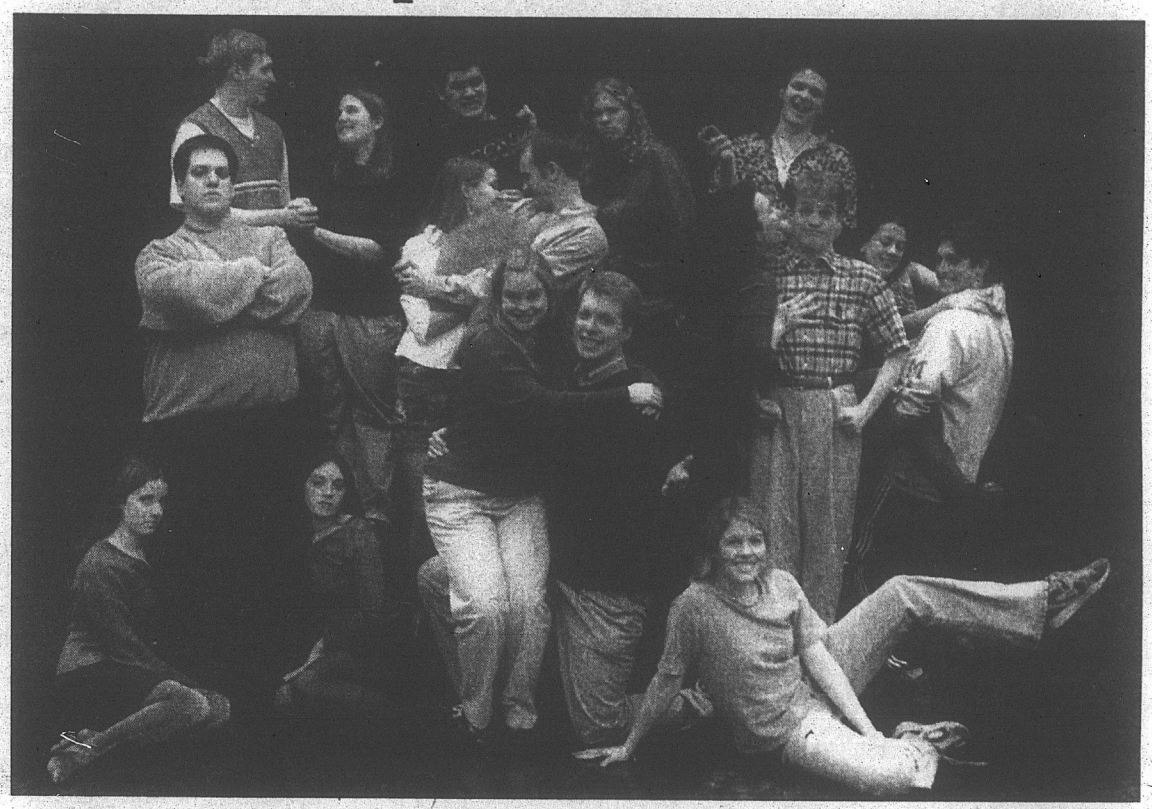
Apparently inspired and based on the comedies of the Roman playwright Plautus, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" "transports the audience back to Rome and its toga wearing Despite the reference to a time long pascitizens." the press release states the show "is timeless and for all ages."

The chorus exclaims "tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight," feeling perhaps like some modern day Trimalchio or Scarlett O'Hara, wrapped up in the cheer of the moment, unaware of or unwilling to cope with the potential for an approaching descent.

And yet the hilarity of the production is such that it forces the audience to take the chorus's words to heart, allowing them to depart from the hall with tears of mirth, not sadness or angst in their eyes.

Confident in the "comical musical numbers" and "fast-paced script," as well as the universal appeal of "A Funny Thing," the Middlebury College Musical Players invite one and all to performances at 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, Friday, February 18 and Saturday, February 19, as well as to a final show at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 20.

Tickets are available now for $5 general admission and $3 for students, seniors and children at the Middlebury Inn as well as through a direct ticket line at (802) 443-2680.



David Barreda

The Middlebury College Musical Players will perform "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum nex week.

Denzel carries show in "Hurricane"

By Joshua Cole
Staff Writer

There has been a great deal of media coverage surrounding "The Hurricane," Norman Jewison's film about the wrongful imprisonment of prize fighter Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. Much of the attention has neglected the film's cinematic merits concentrating instead on the political and racial issues raised therein. Indeed in recent years, the very legal maneuvering that won Carter his release has been legislated out of existence.

The movie itself is simultaneously beautiful and hopelessly flawed. Every moviegoer will immediately appreciate Denzel Washington's striking portrayal of Carter, but many will also note the lackluster acting of every other character. Likewise, the script is quite flat.

Washington's dialogue sometimes borders on the sublime, but too often crosses that border into the ridiculous. Much to his credit, Denzel Washington manages to make every speech appear natural and unscripted. Unfortunately no other actor in the movie can perform this miracle. The character of Rubin Carter is full of subtle complexity, while the other characters are quickly classified as "good" or "bad."

These characters remain unchanged throughout the film. For example, the detective that hunts Carter and eventually tampers with evidence in order to obtain the murder conviction represents a purely evil character filled with racial hatred.

In the real world, no such man existed; he was created in order to provide the embodiment of the malfunctioning and corrupt police system then in existence. Rather than the complexity of having a system with both positive and negative aspects, the writers thought it simpler to create one entirely evil character.

The Rubin Carter story, as portrayed in "The Hurricane," is a simple story of a man wrongly convicted based on racial prejudices.

Rubin Carter is an up and coming middleweight prize fighter on his way to the championship when his life is overturned by his wrongful arrest for the murders of three white bar patrons in New Jersey. During his time in prison, Carter writes a memoir entitled "The 16th Round." This stirs protests from the likes of Bob Dylan and Mohamed Ali, as well as legal appeals and a second trial.

After all of this has failed, a young Harlem transplant living in Toronto reads the autobiography, is inspired, and begins a friendship with Carter. The boy, Lesra Martin, is the only other well developed character in the movie. Vicellois Reon Shannon does an excellent job of playing youthful hope against Washington's despair.

Three friends of Lesra, fellow Canadians of course, inspired by Carter's story move to New Jersey to work full-time for his release. John Hannah, Deborah Unger, and Liev Schreiber portray the three activists with cheesy enthusiasm and commitment. The interactions of these flat characters with Washington's wonderful complexity highlights the films true failings. "Friends" and "Malcolm X" have come crashing together with amusing results in "The Hurricane." The film ends expectedly, with Carter's release. Luckily we are spared a long drawn out courtroom drama.

Apart from Denzel Washington's performance, the only other positive aspect of the film is Roger Deakins' ("Fargo," "Shawshank Redemption") excellent cinematography. Black and white boxing sequences happily remind the viewer of the classic "Raging Bull." "The Hurricane" is certainly no "Raging Bull", but the fight scenes are visually stunning just the same. Blending a wonderfully abstract soundscape with stirring images makes these the most exciting sequences in the film. They successfully juxtapose the brutality of the sport with the subtle beauty of the visual image.

This is a common theme in the film, most clearly represented by several sequences where different parts of Carter's personality argue with one another. Washington portrays both sides of the internal argument in what I found to be a cinematic ploy supported entirely by Washington's acting. In the end, Carter rids himself of the violent facets of his personality, while at the same time, gaining his release from prison.

"The Hurricane" is a very entertaining movie to say the least. Despite the failings of the script and some of the acting, Denzel Washington, and Vicellous Reon Shannon to a lesser extent, help create a film worth watching. If you do not mind a movie that uses a liberal dose of schmaltz, you may very well love this movie. If that sort of thing makes you want to run out of the theatre screaming, Denzel Washington will at least hold you in the seat.

Mos Def inspires truly lackadaisical

By Greg DeVito
Arts Editor

Mos Def's new album "black on both sides" flows. A nice blend of hip hop and rap, Mos Def's tunes generally induce a calm state of relaxation. With appearances by well known artists Busta Rhymes, Q-Tip, Talib Kweli and Vinia Mojica, this album also features other more excitable and exciting styles. However, the overall mellow tone of "black on both sides" remains consistent.

The only song on this album that I really disliked was "Rock 'n' Roll." In this piece, Mos Def attempts to venture into the realm of Rage Against the Machine and fails entirely. However, this type of experimentation is what leads to greatness.

Without the risk of failure nothing can ever be truly successful. It seems precisely because most of Mos Def's other experiments succeed gracefully that his one failure becomes all the more glaring and obvious.

Another odd aspect of this album lies in the introduction to the tune "Brooklyn". Its strangeness, however, like the misguided ambition of "Rock 'n' Roll, does not take away from the overarching fact that, in my opinion, overall this album is a keeper.

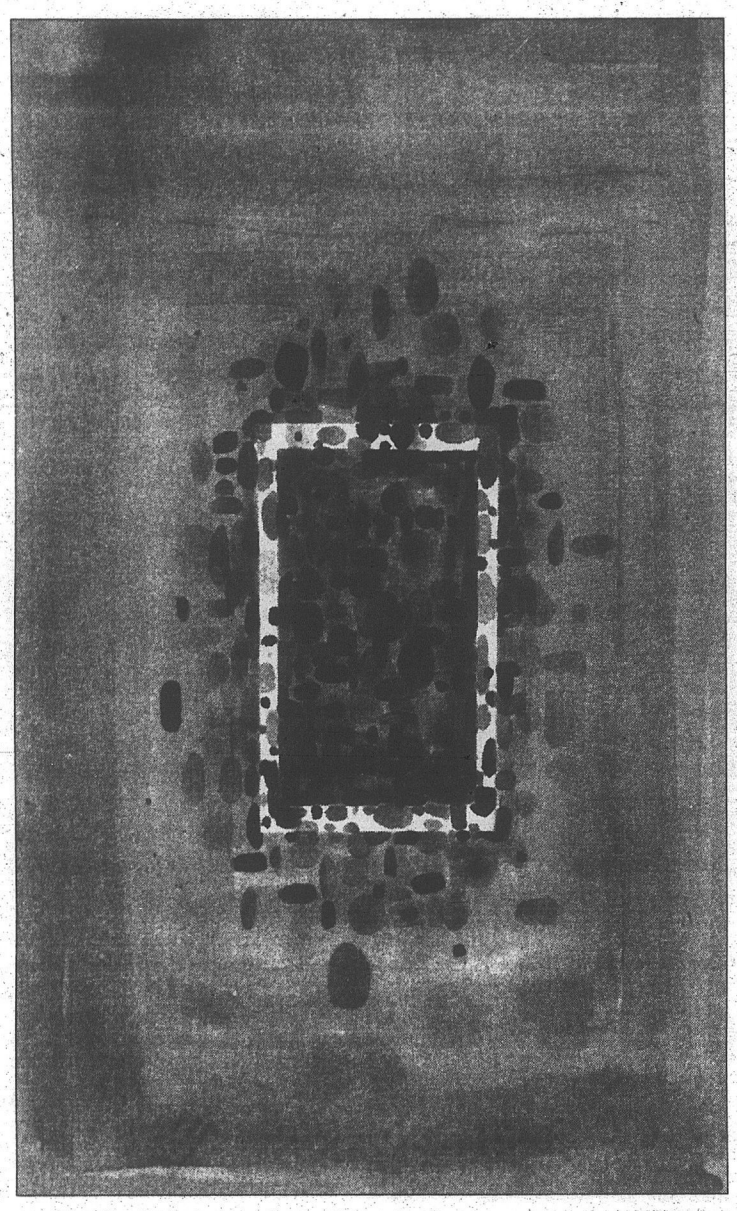
The best and perhaps only way to describe Mos Def is through a comparison to other artists. Many of his beats are similar to those of Tribe Called Quest. Particularly in a song like "Got", Mos Def uses extremely mellifluous and meaningful lyrics over understated tracks to elicit a rather blasé mood. In other songs, such as "Umi Says", for example, he uses more complex tracks loaded with almost religious rhythms to produce a similar response. This is in keeping with Mos Def's self imposed mission of modest creation.

Rather than wax philosophic about how wealthy, dangerous, and sexy his life is, Mos Def actually tries to deal with some real issues affecting real people in the real world today.

Mos Def states, "Whoever hears this and hears good know that it's from Allah. Whoever hears this and hears bad know that it is from me and my own shortcomings." This humble attitude is a far cry from the attitudes of the majority of today's artists.

Mos Def's refreshing modesty permeates the entire album. Rather than wax philosophic about how wealthy, dangerous and sexy his life is, Mos Def actually tries to deal with some real issues affecting real people today, in the real world. I know this idea seems crazy in a Brittany Spears sort of way!

The beauty of this album rests in its repeatability. Mos Def is perfect for continued lounging and chilling. I would highly recommend Mos Def to anyone continuously searching for the perfect background music for laying about in a prone position. Likewise, I would recommend these tunes to anyone in dire need of a stress break. Just relax, kick back and soak up some of Mos Def's flowing atmosphere of complete and utter relaxation…Ah!



Courtesy photo

This untitled watercolor by Robert Reiff is on display in the CFA.

Museum displays faculty, alumni art

(continued from page 9)

up to its title." "50 Years" will run through April 18.

There will be a talk on the exhibition by Donadio herself, who is also the curator of the exhibition, on Sunday, February 20 at 4 p.m. Furthermore, Vito Acconci, creator of the controversial "Way Station II," will give a slide presentation on "his career, his permanent installations at the Philadelphia Airport, the New York nightclub and private parks in the Netherlands" on Wednesday, March 1 at 4:30 p.m. in the concert hall.

"The theme of the Spring, I guess, is bicentennial, bicentennial, bicentennial," says Emmie Donadio, associate director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art.

As far as other exhibitions are concerned, "Stories in Art" will open this Spring, displaying "works from the college collection as well as loans from the Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, Vt. (including a popular "Grandma" Moses winter scene)."

Apparently "a large number of local school children will be visiting the special exhibition… to view a number of works that have been designated for 'young viewers,' who enjoy telling stories about works of art."

The third and final exhibition of the Spring, not including exhibitions of works from the college's permanent collection, is "'13 Alumni Artists,' a juried exhibition of works by alumni who have pursued careers in the visual arts. Painters Jeremy Foss '54, Peter Krashes '85, Steve Miller '73 and Julie Wachtel '78; photographers Bill Burke '66 and Fred Cray '79; sculptors Robert Gober '76, Valerie Hegarty '89 and Susanna Harwood Rubin '89; and installation artists Peter Cole '87, George Creamer '74, Peter Gallo '81 and Julia Rossmann Perez '89 are included in the exhibition." Open from Friday, May 19, "13 Alumni Artists" will remain on view until the fall.

Alumni artists will also be on display this Spring outside the College, with "two exhibitions of works at the Henry Sheldon Museum (May 19-July 29, 2000) and the Vermont State Craft Center (September 15-November 10, 2000), in Middlebury," according to Donadio's statement.

The fact that Middlebury College has such a prolific art program and inspired dedication to the displaying of the work of its artists stands as testament to its commitment to and faith in the creativity of its faculty, students, and alumni.

These exhibitions are worth seeing and supporting. Get out there this Spring, get a little Middlebury culture along with all that fresh Middlebury air.

Music this semester mixes students and stars

(continued from page 10)

Globe of Garrick Ohlsson, who will be performing in the Concert Series, April 16, at 3p.m. He will include Johann Sebastian Bach's "Goldberg Variations."

Mid-April will provide ample opportunities to listen to the talent within the student body. Kate Stevens will give a piano recital at 8p.m., April 19. Peter Dixon and Dionne Thornton will give vocal performances on April 21.

There will be an Applied Student Recital on April 22, featuring the work of piano, voice, violin, cello, and jazz voice students. On April 23, Natasha Koval Paden will give a piano recital of Russian music. Brahms "Sextet in Bb Major, Op. 18," will be performed on April 24 by violinists Devin Arrington and Nick Reeb, Jenny Quinn and Aaron Fine on viola, and Adam Popkin and Becky Swenson on cello.

The final, and especially thrilling, Bicentennial Musical Event will be on April 29 in the Athletic Complex. Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra will continue their tour celebrating the tunes of Duke Ellington to give us, "Jazz at Lincoln Center for Dancers Only."

Don't fret, those of you who are not Dance majors, anyone can go, but make sure that you bring your dancing shoes. These are new compositions created specifically for dancing, and the show will be cabaret style, with dancers on tour to shake up the dancing and "swinging." It promises to be a very memorable performance.

Cultural opportunities abound at the Center for the Arts this semester and most of them are free. Be inspired. Be grateful. Be on your way.

Lost Classics of the over-educated

By Greg DeVito
Arts Editor

"When I was young I, too, had many dreams. Most of the came to be forgotten, but I see nothing in this to regret. For although recalling the past may make you happy, it may sometimes also make you lonely, and there is no point in clinging in spirit to lonely bygone days. However, my trouble is that I cannot forget completely, and these stories have resulted from what I have been unable to erase from my memory…"-Lu Hsun.

A huge gap in the literature knowledge of the average Middlebury student lies in the area of Chinese literature. I would guess that most students could not name more than five respected Chinese authors. I am among this group of students. However, I have come across one Chinese author in particular who seems to speak to the global community. The texts of Lu Hsun have greatly influenced the people of China and could have a profound influence on you.

If you can gain only one piece of knowledge from the texts of Lu Hsun, it would surely be a window into Chinese culture. The first Chinese literature that I ever encountered was the Norton edition of Lu Hsun's selected stories. Obviously, this brief introduction did not instantaneously fill me in on thousands of years of culture. However, stories such as "Kung I-Chi" and "Medicine" offer valuable insight into the Chinese collective unconscious.

In "Kung I-Chi", the narrator reveals a tale from his childhood of a failed intellectual forgotten by society. The rigid social order that emanates from the text seems quite strange to the American reader. Likewise, the small town or village culture of the story which seems quite natural to the narrator is completely foreign to the novice reader. However, as one begins to delve more deeply into the various texts, one begins to feel more and more grounded and comfortable with this foreign world.

In "Medicine", Lu Hsun attempts to demonstrate the inadequacies inherent in the Chinese past way of life and, therefore, the need for change. The basic story deals with a sick boy in need of medicine. The end result of the story is quite shocking to the Western reader. The boy is killed by the very medicine that his parents struggled to obtain. In the midst of this story, narrator witnesses an execution. This hints that the overall story is an allegory for the situation of China. Lu Hsun fears that the most apparent solutions to China's problems may in fact cause more problems.

I recommend Lu Hsun's stories to anyone interested in learning about other cultures. Anyone wishing to discover a somewhat different style of literature would also do well to explore the works of Lu Hsun and other Chinese authors. Although I have only read a few Chinese authors, I have found several that I feel would appeal to a Western audience. The works of Mo Yan in particular struck me as extremely unique and informative. The poetry of Wang Wei also seems to exemplify the excellence of Chinese literature.

It seems a valuable use of one's time to explore the literature of the most populous nation in the world. Lu Hsun represents an excellent stepping stone to the larger oeuvre.

Theatre offers variety and talent this Spring

(continued from page 9)

Dwarfs." Next up. April 13th to 15th is Linda Rosenthal's one-woman show. "Explorations: Text and Movement" combines Linda's theatre and dance major in a movement and monologue piece inspired from a variety of theatre texts. Another feminist piece directed by Taintor, her own re-adaptation of Deborah Levy's "The B-Files" will run concurrently.

The weekend of April 20th "Shadowbox II," the much-awaited sequel to Andy Mitton, Jesse Holland and Meg Taintor's successful teaming last year to produce their own plays will run in the Hepburn Zoo the following weekend, concurrently with Carlos Fenwick's ('00) senior project "Raised in Captivity." By the same author as "Food Chain" (performed in 1998 Zoo season), "Raised in Captivity" promises to deliver humor with just as much of a punch as "Food Chain."

The season finishes up with three more productions by talented, seasoned directors Jessica Burgess ('00), Erin Carr ('00) and Jim Sparnon ('01.5). Working collaboratively with her team of actors and designers in the Studio Theatre, Burgess will direct "Attempts on her Life" - a highly experimental play to be performed the weekend of April 30th. Carr is back this year, this time in the Studio Theatre with another feminist piece. "Little Victories," by Lavonne Mueller, follows the stories of famous women in history. Running concurrently with her piece is Sam Shepard's scathing commentary on America, "Curse of the Starving Class." Both pieces will be performed the weekend of May 4th-7th.

With so much variety, there is a little something for everyone. The only problem is tickets: make sure to buy ahead so you don't get left out of this season's most talked about events. Tickets for any play sponsored by the Department of Theatre/Dance and Film may be bought at the box office in the Centre for the Arts or by calling MIDD. Tickets for independent Zoo shows are sold at the doors, but frequently sell out, so keep an eye out for posters with specific advance ticket reservation information.

"Pen a Love Poem" at Mary's

February 2 - February 14

ROMANTIC EPICUREANS. ASPIRING POETS.

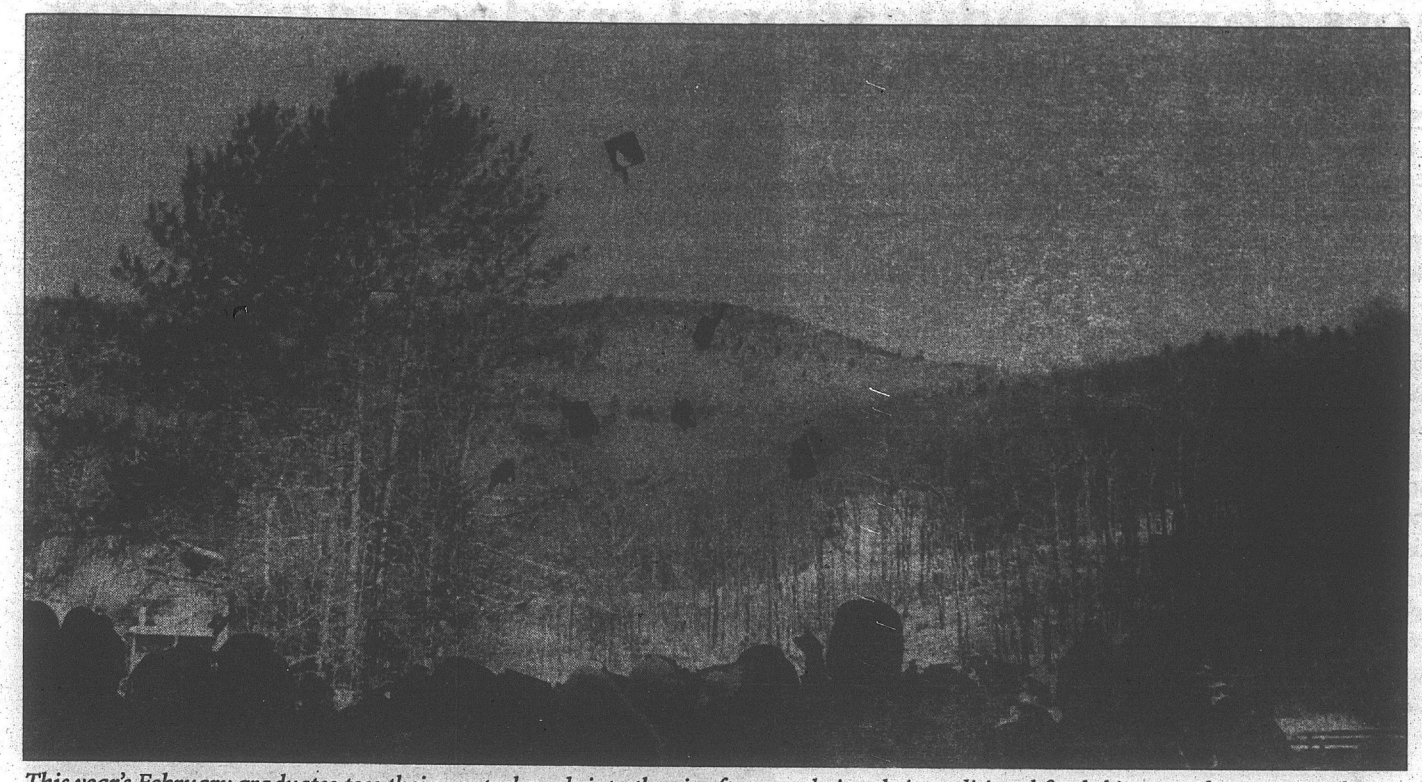
Compose your own Love Sonnet and win some Very Romantic Prizes. Our Adventurous Food & cozy Fireside setting will inspire you!

Grand Prize: *Gourmet Dinner for Two with Overnight Lodging & Breakfast*

Judging by Chris Bohjalian of Lincoln, Author & Poetry Judge Extraordinaire

Mary's at Baldwin Creek
RESTAURANT · INN

OPEN MONDAY FEBRUARY 14 FOR SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DINNER!
WONDERFUL DINNERS SERVED WED-SUN & LODGING & CATERING
North Route 116 Bristol 802-453-7452



This year's February graduates toss their mortarboards into the air after completing their traditional final ski run at the Snow Bowl.

Lara Rosenbaum flips head over heels during the celebration at the Snow Bowl

The new Febs got to know each other while square dancing in McCullough.

The procession of February graduates slowly makes its way down the slope at the Snow Bowl.

Feb leaders Zack Hefferen, Jimmy Jung and Alden Woodrow ponder the future of their Febs during registration.

Hello and Good-bye

Photos by Mike Kautz and Andrew Corrigan

In the space of one short week, Middlebury College said good-bye to one class of Febs, and welcomed another. The graduating class strapped on their skis and snowboards underneath their caps and gowns, and took one final run at the Snow Bowl. Not long after their departure, a new class had already discovered the joys of Broomball on McCullough rink and sledding on Mead Chapel hill.

The new class quickly found many opportunities for enjoyment around campus, including sledding in front of Mead Chapel.

A pair of graduates adds a distinctively Middlebury touch to the traditional wardrobe of caps and gowns.

Steve Waltien gets a kiss from Kate Harrington after the pair successfully ran Feb orientation.

Simon Issacs discusses the possibility of his entering a history class during registration in Bicentennial hall.

The new February class get pelted with snowballs during their class picture taken outside of McCullough on Saturday.

What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Features Editor

Last month, I took a class on philosophy and literature. It was my first philosophy class ever, and in the beginning I was pretty excited. "Wow," I thought to myself, "Finally a chance to put an answer to all those questions that have racked my brain for so many years, like 'what is the meaning of life?' and 'how is snow possible?'"

Well, as it turns out, the second question is not even covered by philosophy at all, and the first... well the first question is no longer a question, but it definitely is not answered. Instead, it is more like ten or 20 larger questions that do not have answers.

Only one thing is certain for me right now. In philosophy, you learn just enough to mess you up for the rest of your life. I bet that is why so many people are lured in after taking a philosophy class.

They think, naively, that even though they have more questions after the intro course than they did before it, that is simply because it is necessary for them to take subsequent, in-depth classes.

You see, in philosophy, first you learn about a smart guy—take Confucius for example—who told everyone that human nature is good. So, you figure, "that's great, I'm not so bad after all."

But then you learn about a really smart guy like Freud who brings you back down to earth and explains that you are only motivated by sex. As a normal college student, you humbly agree.

Still, after that initial confusion, things only get worse. Next you learn about the existentialists, namely Sartre and Camus. These guys were so intelligent that they didn't even write what they had to say in English. They wrote it in French, which is amazing because it took me eight years just to learn how to say, "May I go to the bathroom, Madame?" with the proper accent.

Now, you are told very firmly that in order to understand philosophy, you must understand existentialism. You are also told that existentialism is a very hard concept, and you must prepare for class diligently. If you are smart, at this point, you give a short but meaningful prayer to God.

Then, as if to mock all that you have left in this world, you are quickly introduced to a German named Nietzsche who emphasizes that the prayer you just finished is not going to make much of a difference seeing how God is dead.

What to do? Well, Sartre clarifies the entire situation with his deduction that existence precedes essence. None of us came here with a purpose at all. We just happened to happen.

The best analogy I can come up with is the Marlins championship team of 1997. One day it was there, the next day it wasn't, and

(see Philosophy, page 16)

Seniors develop educational outdoor guidebook

By Jess Kassis
Features Editor

We are all fortunate to attend a college located in one of the more beautiful states in this country. The bright green grass in contrast with a bold blue sky can even be overpowering in the spring, and the silky white winter snow often invites adventure.

Yet, as students, we are busy people and often fail to recognize or take advantage of these surroundings. This is understandable at times since incoming first-years are not provided with a guide to the numerous local outdoor activities in the Middlebury area.

A group of students in an Environmental Studies seminar entitled Environmental Education took on the challenge of creating just such a resource.

This student-directed project, inspired by Brewster Boyd '00, arose from his frustration upon discovering that a friend was unaware of Snake Mountain, a commonly hiked trail, even after four years in Middlebury. Boyd's motivation, along with the common interests of six other seniors led to the development of a guidebook entitled, "Exploring the Landscape: An Educational Outdoor Guide to the Middlebury Area."

Boyd, Pete Huoppi, Mike Kautz, Andy Wall, Derek Esposito, Scott Leach, and Andrew Gault spent their fall researching, and often participating in, numerous local outdoor activities including mountain biking, road biking, hiking, skiing, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, rock climbing, ice climbing, fishing and hunting. As the writers themselves state, "This guide is the answer to: 'What can I do, and where can I go to enjoy the outdoors around Middlebury.'"

The various outdoor skills and interests of each author along with the diversity of their majors was a key factor in the success of their final product.

The content of this resource goes above and beyond that of most outdoor guidebooks. The writers set out to build upon the teachings of Professor John Elder by conveying the importance of developing a sense of place and wonder.

The seminar focused upon books such as "The Sense of Wonder" by Rachel Carson, David Sobel's "Beyond Ecophobia," and Tom Wessel's "Reading the Forested Landscape" among others. The writers claim that these texts, "inspired the feeling that exploring the outdoors is a critical part of our lifelong education about deeper spiritual connection to the land."

Such a "broad, philosophical context," as described by Elder, is accomplished by the inclusion of pertinent local and cultural history, recipes, quotations from famous nature writers, and personal anecdotes from students who have participated in outdoor activities described.

The writers collaborated with Megan Smith, assistant director of Student Activities, to include an overview of the Leave No Trace policy, further highlighting the need to reduce human impact on our environment and strengthening the educational component of the book.

This book has since been published and presented at the Environmental Science colloquium this past fall. Its warm reception was no surprise, as the final product surpassed any initial expectations. Elder, who wrote a short piece for the guidebook was thrilled with the outcome.

Though the large writing team and sustenance of a philosophical context sparked some worry, Elder said the students, "carried it off in high style" and "expects future generations at Middlebury to use [the] publication with gratitude".

Others in the audience were equally impressed. Will Melton, vice president for External Affairs, sees a future for the guidebook here at Middlebury College.

Melton hopes to see the book published and donated to the Office of Admissions and the local Chamber of Commerce. Melton was " very impressed with the quality and design of guidebook" and sees it as a useful resource for both prospective students and local tourists.

In addition, the guidebook will be used in recruiting both faculty and students to the Environmental Studies department.

The Middlebury College Alumni Association has established The Long Trail, a project connecting the student body through their experiences here at Middlebury. The metaphorical nature of the title The Long Trail connotes a focus on the long-lasting relationship that an individual can look forward to when they choose to attend Middlebury.

Pamphlets introducing first-years to the Alumni Association as well as mousepads adorned with the work of famous Vermont artist Sabra Field will be given to all first-years in the upcoming year.

It has been suggested that "Exploring the Landscape" be given as a gift from the Alumni Association to all sophomores, continuing to strengthen the relationship between Middlebury College, the community and the students.

Middlebury alum Tom Pohlad '82 has also expressed interest in the student made guidebook. Pohlad was introduced to the book this past January when visiting the college. An avid participant in the Mountain Club as a student and now an investment banker in Minneapolis, Pohlad was thoroughly impressed with the final product. He has agreed to aid in the publication of one thousand copies of "Exploring the Landscape" for distribution among the student body.

It is the wish of all the co-authors of this guidebook that their work is distributed among the student population in the near future so that we may all enjoy the adventures our local environment has to offer.

Costa Rica class creates friendships

By Derek Esposito
Staff Writer

While J-term is equated with skiing, naps and parties for most students, it meant something completely different for the eighteen students enrolled in "The Geology and Natural History of Costa Rica" this past January. Taught by Professors Helen Young and Peter Ryan of the biology and geology departments respectively, this class aimed at intertwining the two disciplines, giving students a unique perspective of the large-scale processes that shape the local landscape in Costa Rica.

The class began with a pre-departure meeting in Bicentennial Hall on January 3, scheduled with the hope of acquainting the group, since most of us were virtual strangers at that point.

Josh Nothwang
Students take a moment to relax at Tres Hermanos mine while in Costa Rica.

Little did we know that over the course of the next three weeks we would emerge from our experience as a close group of friends. After forming some hesitant first impressions, we set off from Burlington for our final destination of San Jose, Costa Rica.

Our first night in San Jose was spent participating in the regular shopping and sightseeing activities. That evening a trip to a karaoke bar proved to be entertaining, as some of the locals (Ticos) impressed us with their ability to perform Def Leppard with a straight face. It was refreshing to know that the eighties are not dead.

The following day we set off for Monteverde, a high elevation rainforest where we were to spend the next week studying the local environment. In Monteverde we learned that the word "rainforest" could not exist if it weren't for the word "rain." Over the course of the next several days it rained and rained and rained some more. Although we were visiting in Costa Rica's "dry season," we were often

(see Costa Rica, page 16)

Andrew Corrigan

Two incoming Febs spice it up at McCullough during Orientation last week.

New Febs add excitement to campus

By Bob Wainwright
Features Editor

The class of '03.5 arrived on campus Wednesday, February 2, and was immediately given a taste of the busy life at Middlebury College. After settling into their rooms located all over campus, this year's Febs enjoyed a welcome dinner at President and Mrs. McCardell's house, followed by convocation, a meeting of orientation groups and a square dance.

Perhaps the most exciting day of orientation for many was Saturday, when the entire Feb class went to Snow Bowl for great nordic and alpine skiing, followed by a party and dinner in the Snow Bowl lodge.

This year's orientation, organized by senior Febs Kate Harrington and Steve Waltien, was once again a great success, as can be attributed to the rave reviews given by many new Febs.

Steve Hulce, one Feb from Chicago, Illinois said, "I thought the Feb leaders bent over backwards to make us feel welcome. They made it a lot easier to come to a school halfway through the school year."

Middlebury's Febs have always shown an incredible ability to fit right in. One need only notice the number of Febs currently participating in extracurricular activities...

"The Feb orientation at Middlebury has always been student run," explained Harrington. "So it is incredibly unique in that sense."

For both the organizers and the sophomore Feb leaders, February orientation is a good way to repay what they all feel was a great beginning to their own Middlebury careers.

"I look back on my orientation as a really special time for me," said Harrington. "It is the only time you are around people who have all gone through, or are going through, the same experience as you. It's a neat experience to see these people go through what you did."

Coming into a college like Middlebury, where everyone at least recognizes one another, could be a very daunting task. Middlebury's Febs, however, have always shown an incredible ability to fit right in. One need only notice the number of Febs currently participating in extracurricular activities to see how true that is.

Many wonder if it is also tough for Febs to begin branching outside of their own class. Being located all over campus actually makes that a necessity.

Californian Julie Rathman is one of the few Febs living in a first-year dorm, Battell. "I was able to meet all the Febs during orientation, but now living in a first-year dorm, I get more opportunities to meet some of the Regs," explained Rathman.

Even if they do not live next door to first-years, most Febs have not found the transition overly difficult. "Proctor is a good place to meet people, if you get a seat. Everyone's really nice, though," stated Laura Zarchen, '03.5.

This year's Feb class also comes with quite a few people whose resumes would blow those of most people out of the water. Katherine Hoeschler, who comes from Wisconsin, is the first champion log roller ever to come to Middlebury. Log rolling is a sport, popular in some areas, unknown in others, in which two competitors battle it out on a twelve foot red cedar log to see who can stay on the longest. Hoeschler, who says she "loves the environment here," actually plans to teach other students the sport starting next year.

Michael Kirkland spent his first semester in Australia, as a tutor at an Aboriginal boarding school one hour north of Cairns. 60 teenagers were enrolled in the school, half of whom were Aboriginies. The other half was comprised of Porres Straite Islanders. Kirkland taught reading and writing to the students, when he was not playing rugby against them on the beach.

Fellow Feb William Roush spent an incredible first semester, teaching English, math, and science to mostly seventh and eighth graders at a primary school in west-central Kenya. He lived with a family of the Pokot tribe while staying there. Incredibly, this all happened after Rousch spent six weeks working for a non-profit organization in Tibet last spring.

It is certainly clear that almost every one of this year's Febs has an incredible story to tell. Most have used their open first semesters to explore completely new and exciting opportunities. Furthermore, the Febs seem as happy to be here as the Middlebury community is to have them.

As Kate Harrington explained, "As a new Feb, you're just so excited to be here. Since everything seems ordered already, you also feel as though it's necessary to leave your mark on the school."

Seniors vote on-line for a class gift

By Jess Kassis
Features Editor

It is that time of the year again. The senior class is now in the process of voting on what will be the gift from the first graduating class of the millenium. While most seniors can simply click onto the website and submit a vote, others have been working hard since this fall to make the project a success.

Hugh Marlow, executive secretary of the Alumni Association, and Ruth Henry, director of Annual Giving and Special Gifts, contacted several students via phone calls as well as posters in the hopes of forming a committee.

One was quickly formed. The first Senior Class gift Committee meeting took place this past October with the most important goal being the election of co-chairs and the solidification of the committee.

Co-chairs Blake Rutherford, Kate Lockwood, and Derek Esposito worked with Marlow and Henry to begin brainstorming for gift possibilities immediately following their election. Brainstorming among co-chairs and committee members continued throughout the remainder of the fall term, resulting in a set list of possible senior class gifts.

Committee members returned during J-term to begin researching the feasibility of each idea, a process that quickly narrowed down the possibilities initially proposed. A goal of ten to fifteen thousand dollars was established and therefore all gift possibilities were to correspond with that price range.

Under new advisor Brandon Doyle, assistant director of Annual Giving, the committee finalized a list of five possible senior class gifts. Sub-committees worked hard to publicize these options using posters, mailings, and all-senior e-mails.

With this work done, now is the time for seniors to vote. The five options include: 1) Class of 2000 Fund for Development, which includes stipends for student travel, internships, creative student projects or other student services that requires funding, 2) Class of 2000 wall clock for the Great Hall of Bicentennial Hall, 3) Class of 2000 fund to support an outdoor sculpture commissioned by the Art in Public Spaces Committee, 4) Class of 2000 Scholarship, and 5) other. It is important to note that any additional money for the wall clock or the outdoor sculpture would be donated to student aid.

The class of 2000 is the first in Middlebury history to be voting entirely on-line, (https://www.middlebury.edu:603/gift), an innovation that most definitely makes voting an easier process.

The voting period ends this evening at 7:00 pm. Members of the Senior Class Gift Committee strongly encourage all seniors to vote so that the gift they give back to Middlebury College will accurately reflect the opinions of their entire senior class.

CAMPUS VOICES

What is the biggest regret of your Middlebury career?

Compiled by Jess Kassis

Photos by Andrew Corrigan

"Never having hooked up with Myles Sibley"

-Melissa Maher '00

"Having hooked up with Myles Sibley"

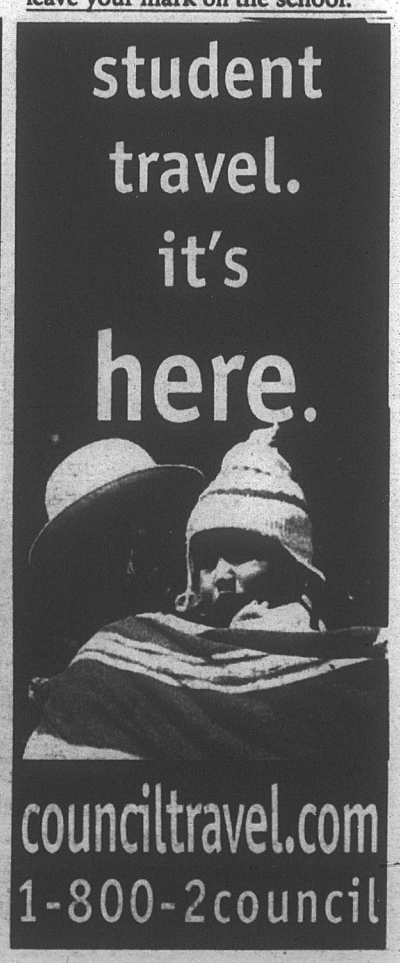
-Muffy Peters '00

"My unrequited love for Myles Sibley"

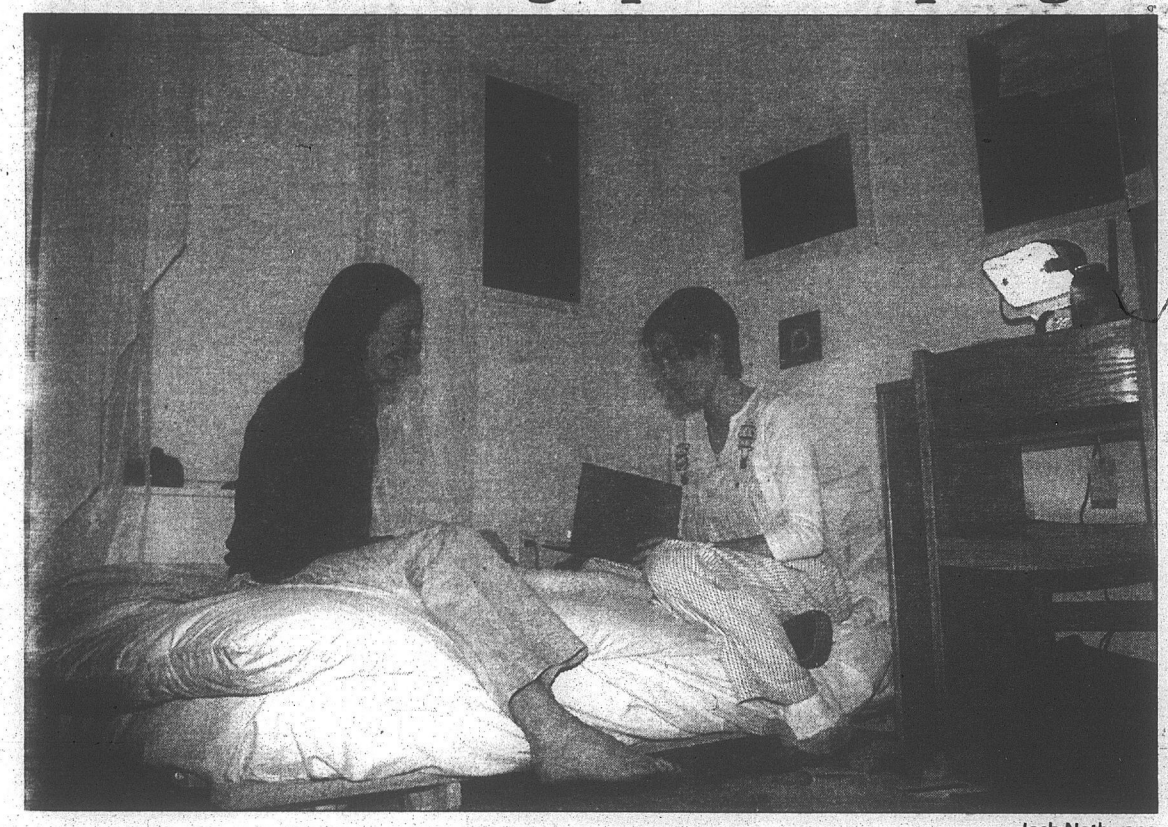
-Tasman Rubel '00

"Never having hooked up with Myles Sibley... more often."

-Deirdre Connolly '00



Modular housing opens for spring term amidst great approval



Josh Nothwang

Seniors Kate Barnett and Lorraine Roth relax in the smallest of the six single rooms in their modular home, Norgay.

By Julie Frisbie
In-Depth Editor

With wall-to-wall carpeting in every room, two bathrooms, five large bedrooms, and a common area big enough for a registered party with a quarter keg, what's not to like about living in one of Middlebury's new mobile homes? Right now, 34 students reside in these new accommodations tucked away beside Ridgeline parking lot and are deciding for themselves just what there is to like and not like about Middlebury's latest solution to the housing crunch.

Surprisingly, only five groups applied for the four new houses offered for occupation after February break. Paige Budelsky commented, "The modular homes were not as popular as I thought they were going to be. I believe that they will be requested more when they come up in room draw at the end of this year."

Heather Langlois '00, who recently moved into one of the houses, speculated as to why more students like her had not jumped at the opportunity for such nice living conditions. "I think kids didn't want to have to move midway through the year. You also have to drive a lot of places because we're so far away. Those are the only drawbacks. I think these houses will go really fast at the open draw this spring. Even though we're so far removed, we have a nice little cul-de-sac of trailers and a good blend of guys and girls."

Budelsky has received encouraging feedback so far, "The students are very happy to be down there finally. They were very flexible in moving out of their dorms earlier this year and into temporary housing until their modular homes were ready. I would say that the sentiment all around has been pretty positive."

The Middlebury College community has been awaiting the arrival and completion of these new houses since the beginning of the year, but, as Budelsky explained, it was a lengthy process getting them approved and figuring out how they would fit into the college's long term housing plans.

"The tentative plan is to keep them three to five years. But nothing is certain. I do not see them staying for more than five years, however." The modular homes will certainly not go away once the Ross Commons project is finished, however. Atwater is planning some senior housing as well, and the modular homes will be needed if anyone is forced to move out of their dorm.

A preliminary inspection took place earlier this year that gave a temporary certificate to the college for the homes. It stated that everything was in accordance with safety laws, but a second inspection would be needed for an occupancy certificate.

With the first inspection completed, students were allowed to move their belongings before February break, but they could not live there until earlier this week. The final inspection, which the modular homes passed, came just before February break ended.

Budelsky is especially enjoying the benefits the new homes have created in making her job less stressful. "Everyone in the school is very happy that the modular homes are here. It has also given me much more flexibility in being able to accommodate room changes for other students."

The secret is out now about just how nice the new modular homes are. Langlois admitted she could go on and on about all the perks of her new trailer, but she stopped herself at, "we have real curtains, all new furniture and two bathrooms all to ourselves, what more could I ask for?"

Costa Rica provides great adventure

(continued from page 14)

wet, explaining why we all returned to Midd without tans.

Throughout the rain we maintained high spirits, however, as we studied stream chemistry, soil mapping, light gaps, and plants known to some students as "stiffies."

The highlight of our time in Monteverde came on our fifth night when we were lucky enough to go bat netting with Richard K. Laval, one of the world's foremost bat experts. After catching bats in a mist net, Richard banded and weighed them for his research and then passed them to us to hold and pet before releasing them back into the wild. That night will not soon be forgotten, since we all are now of the opinion that bats are actually kind of cute!

Our change of heart concerning the bats may have proven to be an omen, since we were blessed with clear skies for the next few days. Our studies in Monteverde culminated in presentations of group projects, after which we hit the road again for a short tour of some of Costa Rica's volcanoes.

We spent the next two days at Rincon de la Vieja where we spotted our first clan of monkeys. The majority of the group passed the time bathing in the sun in the backdrop of a waterfall comparable in beauty to Shangri-La. Spider and Howler monkeys in an adjacent tree even amused themselves by throwing sticks at bathing students.

Only the hardiest of our group made the extenuating hike up to the crater. Unfortunately, Justin Barton-Caplin '99.5, Jon Katz '02, Chris Kautz '02, and Peter Ryan were met with fierce wind and zero visibility at the summit but could at least take solace in the fact that they made it.

The amount that our class bonded became evident our last night in La Selva where we visited the local disco. Our entire class danced the night away to heavy Latin beats...

The next leg of our trip brought out the adventurous spirit in each of us. As our bus was travelling to Arenal, the second volcano, we were forced to a halt by a massive landslide that had blocked the road ahead. A truck had failed in its attempt to navigate through the obstacle, giving the men in our class the opportunity to put our muscles to the test. Minutes later we had freed the truck, earning us a free ride to our campsite on Arenal.

The 20 of us jumped in the beds of two pickup trucks and were back on our way to see the world's most active volcano. Yet our hopes of seeing flying lava were soon dashed upon arrival by thick cloud-cover at Arenal, but spirits were revamped by the water slides adjacent to our hotel.

The following morning we left bright and early for La Selva, the second rainforest on our itinerary. Both rain and sunshine followed us to La Selva, but neither could compete with the wide variety of animals we encountered there.

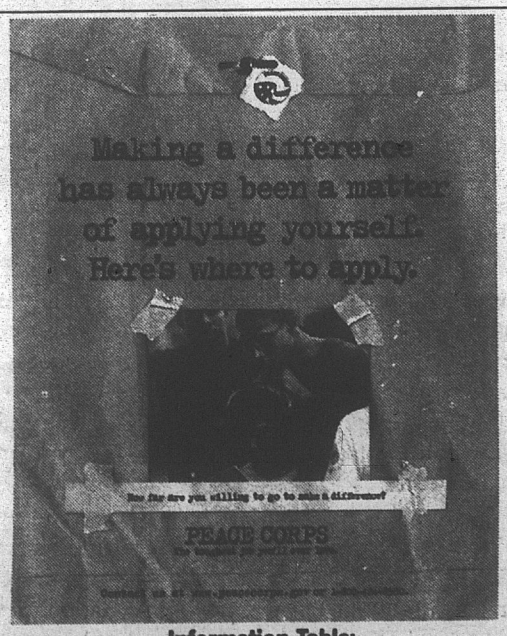
Andy Thompson '00.5 and Kate Schick '00 returned each afternoon smelling like the peccaries (wild pigs) that shared their project site while Tim Morse '99.5, Sharon Wilson '01, and Katherine Burgdorff '01 came across a dangerous eyelash viper as they searched for a mysterious thermal vent.

Beth Downing '01, Lourie Yelton '01, and Jess Kassis '00 observed spider monkeys during the day and saw armadillos at night while Cindy Withington '00 and Kelly Jewell '02 fondled poison dart frogs as part of their student-led project.

Wildlife was even spotted back at the station as Josh Nothwang '00, Robyn Cook '02, Susan Ludwick '02 and Amanda Ayres '00 watched a three-toed sloth while performing tests on their soil samples.

The amount that our class had bonded became evident our last night in La Selva, where we visited the local disco. Our entire class danced the night away to heavy Latin beats under a bamboo roof.

As everyone was beaming with smiles, we were grateful for the opportunity we had to spend our J-term in such a beautiful place. In addition, we were thankful for the unique chance to form strong friendships with our two wonderful professors, Peter Ryan and Helen Young, who taught us that professors can be cool after all.



Information Table:
Tuesday, February 15, 10 am - 3 pm, Proctor Woodstove Lounge
Information Meeting:
Tuesday, February 15, 7:30 pm, Bicentennial Hall, Room 438

Student philosopher questions his own sanity

(continued from page 14)

nobody really talks much about it anymore.

In order to make it very clear once and for all that people simply exist, Sartre wrote a long work titled "Being and Nothingness," which was number one on the best seller list in 1943, beating out "Let's All Just All Be Ignorant and Happy" by a big margin.

By now you have come to the conclusion that any purpose you have on earth is up to you and your own consciousness. Yet, you are driven by your desire for sex, and unfortunately God is not there to help because he passed away a few years before Nietzsche.

But what of death? Some philosophers will tell you that death is the ultimate act of living. For instance, Leo Tolstoy's Ivan Ilych finds the meaning of life about two solid hours before he dies. Hurrah! Another dead man finds the meaning of life. This is not a very promising scenario.

And then the absurd becomes absurder. Camus presents you with the myth of Sisyphus. Most people know it. For those who don't: Guy makes gods mad by being a tattle tale and is forced to roll a boulder up a mountain, until it rolls back down because of gravity, whereupon he repeats the process for eternity.

Not a great way to spend eternity right? Wrong. Camus explains, in French mind you, that Sisyphus' struggle is itself enough to make him happy. Excuse me? I have been forced into manual labor a few times in my life, none of which have given me even an iota of contentment.

In fact, the only happy part I can find in apparently mindless manual labor is the understanding that I will not have to continue for eternity. Believe me, there is no happiness in rolling boulders up mountains. To tell the truth, many people find little happiness in simply walking up mountains.

Therefore, when all is said and done, a philosophy student such as myself is left with many more questions and absolutely no answers. Consequently, the only logical thing to do, as I see it, is to follow Freud's advice and devote your life to pursuing sex.

Women's hockey trounces competition en route to five wins

By Margaret Aycock & Mike Hartt
Staff Writers

'Over the past two weeks, Middlebury's women's ice hockey team has hit the road for five of six games, including three away games in four days that forced the team to traverse the northeast. The Panthers dominated their games, winning five while outscoring their competition 24-7. The team continued to crush Division III opponents, while also earning a hard fought win over a tough McGill team.

"That was the best win that we had had up until that point. It was great to come back at them [McGill] after having tied them the week before."
-Captain Sarah Hall '00

The McGill game, the Panthers only home game in the past two weeks, gave Middlebury a chance to try to take out a Canadian squad that they had tied the week before in Montreal. The Marlets brought Kim St. Pierre, their goalie, currently on leave from the Canadian National Team. St. Pierre frustrated the Panther shooters all night long, as Middlebury piled up 40 shots. However, in the end, it was Christa McDougall '00 who tallied to provide the final winning margin of 1-0 for Middlebury. McDougall's goal at 15:10 of the second period, with assists to Michelle Labbe '01 and Catherine Elkins '02 stood up in the third, as the Panther defense allowed McGill only eight shots, which Middlebury goalie Megan Hutchinson '02 successfully stopped. With the score of the game so low, the Middlebury defense played a huge role in making sure that the Marlets would be denied quality scoring opportunities, and was able to control the puck for much of the game.

According to captain Sarah Hall '00, "that was the best win that we had had up until that point. It was great to come back at them after having tied them the week before. The McGill game was a great one for us from a confidence standpoint. It also was nice to win against the Canadian National Team goalie." Coach Bill Mandigo expressed pleasure with the team's hard work and solid play, especially against St.Pierre, who previously had beaten the USA National Team in a shootout.

The Panthers then traveled to Southern Maine for an ECAC league game against a team prepared to physically battle Middlebury. Southern Maine came out hitting hard and was whistled for a penalty just a minute and a half into the game. Middlebury's power play collected its first goal of the night, on a McDougall shot with the assist to Michelle Labbe '01. A mere nine seconds later, Ashley Morton '02 put the puck in the net (assist to Angela Kapus '03), to give Middlebury a 2-0 lead before two minutes had even gone by. Southern Maine continued to hit and check, trying to knock Middlebury out of its game – Catherine Pullins '00 notched the Panthers' second power-play goal of the game with five minutes left in the period (assists to McDougall and Sylvia Ryan '00). The second period saw Middlebury score two more power play goals, the first by Amber Neil '03 (assist to Laurie Richmond '02), the second by Elkins. The third period saw Hall make the margin 6-0 (assisted by Audrey Pellerin '03), the game's final score. Beth Denoncourt '00 made 17 saves in goal, one of the highest numbers all season, and earned Middlebury's 11th shutout of the year.

The next day, Middlebury took the ice against a hapless Bates team in last place in the league. The Panthers again came away with a dominating win, earning an 8-0 shutout over a weak team. Middlebury started the scoring off early in the first with a goal by Kelly Hase '00 (assisted by Hall), followed by Richmond (assists to Nico Kieves '02 and Anna Hastings '02). Lynette Cassidy '02 struck next (assisted by Molly Barefoot '03 and Hastings), followed by a Megan Hutchinson '02 tally (assists to Richmond and Pullins) and Hase's second of the period (assisted by Sarah Carpenter '01). With a 5-0 lead going into the second period, Middlebury was virtually assured a win. However, goals by Kapus and Chrissy Fuld '03 moved the score to 7-0 entering the final 20 minutes. During the last stanza, Denoncourt scored, with assists to Cassidy and Jacqui Phillips '03. As in the earlier game against MIT, both of Middlebury's goalies notched goals, while other players stepped into the net. Christa McDougall '00 made eight saves in the first two periods, while Nina Kieves '02 made five in the last period. Overall, Middlebury outshot the Bobcats 53-13 en route to the victory.

The Middlebury women continued their jaunt across New England to western New York and Cornell University, a Division I program that would present a serious challenge for the Panthers. Even while peppering the Cornell netminder with 28 shots, the Panthers were kept off the board all season, losing a 6-0 decision to the Big Red. Said Hall, "Our game against Cornell, although it looks one-sided, was not as bad as that. We played them tough for three quarters of the game, but we just could not put one in." Indeed, Middlebury was down only 2-0 early in the third period, but, according to Mandigo, "we did not take advantage of our opportunities and, in the end, we ran out of gas." Hutchinson made 32 saves in the losing effort.

"We went into the Hamilton game hoping to get out with a win. Well, we did, but we made it more interesting than that."
-Captain Sarah Hall '00

The Panthers looked to rebound in league games against RIT and Hamilton the following weekend, taking the ice first against the Tigers in Rochester on Saturday night. At RIT, Middlebury again executed effectively on the power-play, tallying three goals with the extra skater, while holding the Tigers scoreless on six power play opportunities. The Panthers' first goal, by Amber Neil '03, from McDougall, opened the floodgates at the end of the first period – less than a minute after her goal, Captain Hall scored her first of the weekend, assisted by Ryan and Labbe. Two minutes later, Labbe gave the Middlebury Panthers' first power-play goal, on an assist from Elkins and Ryan, giving a 3-0 lead with 15 seconds left in the first period. Middlebury was held scoreless in the second but was able to notch two power play goals in the third, the first by Ryan from Elkins, the second by McDougall from Ryan and Elkins. Denoncourt made seven saves in goal, while Middlebury racked up 47 shots against the helpless RIT defense. Said Hall about the win, "The RIT game, although riddled with penalties, was a good one. For the most part we played really well, and left feeling good about the result."

Middlebury wound down February Break with a Sunday afternoon game at Hamilton, very eager to get home for some rest. The Panthers struck first, with McDougall tallying midway through the first period (assisted by Pullins), and Elkins scoring early in the second. However, Middlebury was shocked when Hamilton put the puck past Hutchinson late in the second, making the score an uncomfortably close 2-1 going into the third. The Panthers put the game away in the last ten minutes behind goals by Labbe (assists to Kapus and Carpenter) and Hall (McDougall, E. Neil), and left town with their 86th ECAC league win in a row. Hutchinson made 6 saves, while the Panthers put up 49 shots on Hamilton.

Said Mandigo on the closer-than-expected Hamilton win, "We were tired (the third game in four days on the road), but we fought back. Hamilton played very well and I give them a great deal of credit." Hall commented on the game, "We went into the Hamilton game hoping to get out with a win. Well, we did, but we made it more interesting than that. It was 2-1 with 10 minutes to play. Luckily we were able to put in two late goals, but by the end we were quite ready to get home."

This coming week, Middlebury will travel to RPI for a Wednesday night non-league game, and will then host Colgate and Union this weekend. The Panthers defeated the RPI E[illegible]eers 7-0 earlier in the season in Middlebury. Colgate comes to Kenyon Arena as the only other team still undefeated in league play, eager to steal a win from the Panthers. Hall states, "RPI and Colgate are two of the biggest games we have this season. Colgate is ranked number two in the nation and they think that they can beat us, so it should be a great game."

Game time against the Red Raiders is 7:00 p.m. this Saturday at home in Kenyon Arena.

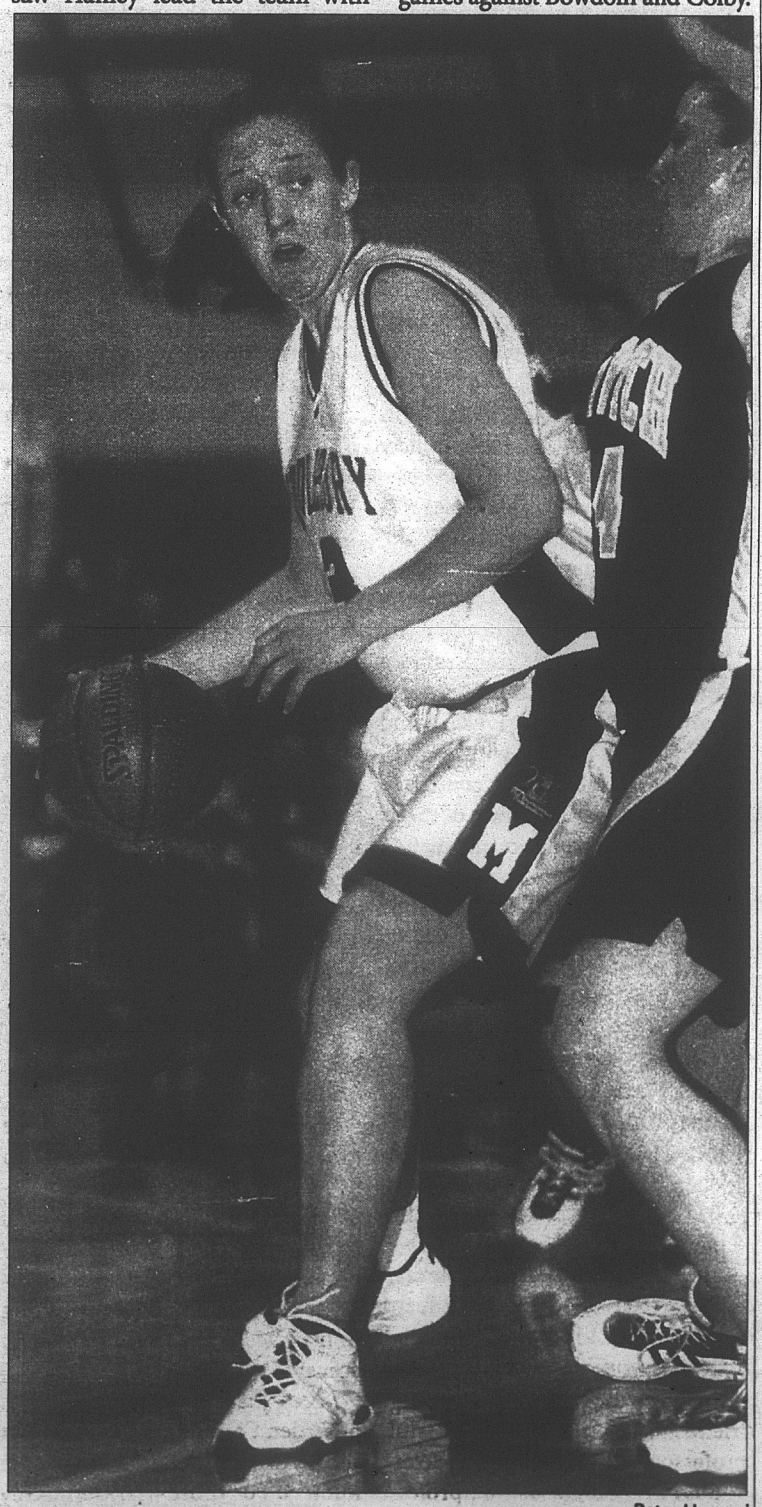
Women's basketball team falls to 8-2

By Margaret Aycock
Staff Writer

Middlebury women's basketball took to the court five times over February break, gaining three wins and suffering their first two conference losses of the season. The Panthers started out the break with a pair of home games against conference opponents Connecticut College and Wesleyan University. In the Connecticut College game, Middlebury emerged with a 73-59 victory over the Camels, with Kristin Hanley '03 leading the team scoring with 24 points. Against Wesleyan, Middlebury continued to dominate defeating the Cardinals 75-51, bringing the Panthers NESCAC record to 3-0. Dawn Trowbridge '00 was the scoring leader for the game with 21 points. Additionally, Hanley had a career-high 21 rebounds in the game and for her stellar performance over the weekend, earned the honor of NESCAC co-player of the week. In a mid-week non-conference game against Clarkson, Middlebury jumped out to 35-12 lead in the first half and continued their pressure thoughout the second half for a 68-37 victory over the Golden Knights. Trowbridge and co-captain Heather Langlois '00 led the team with 15 points each for the game.

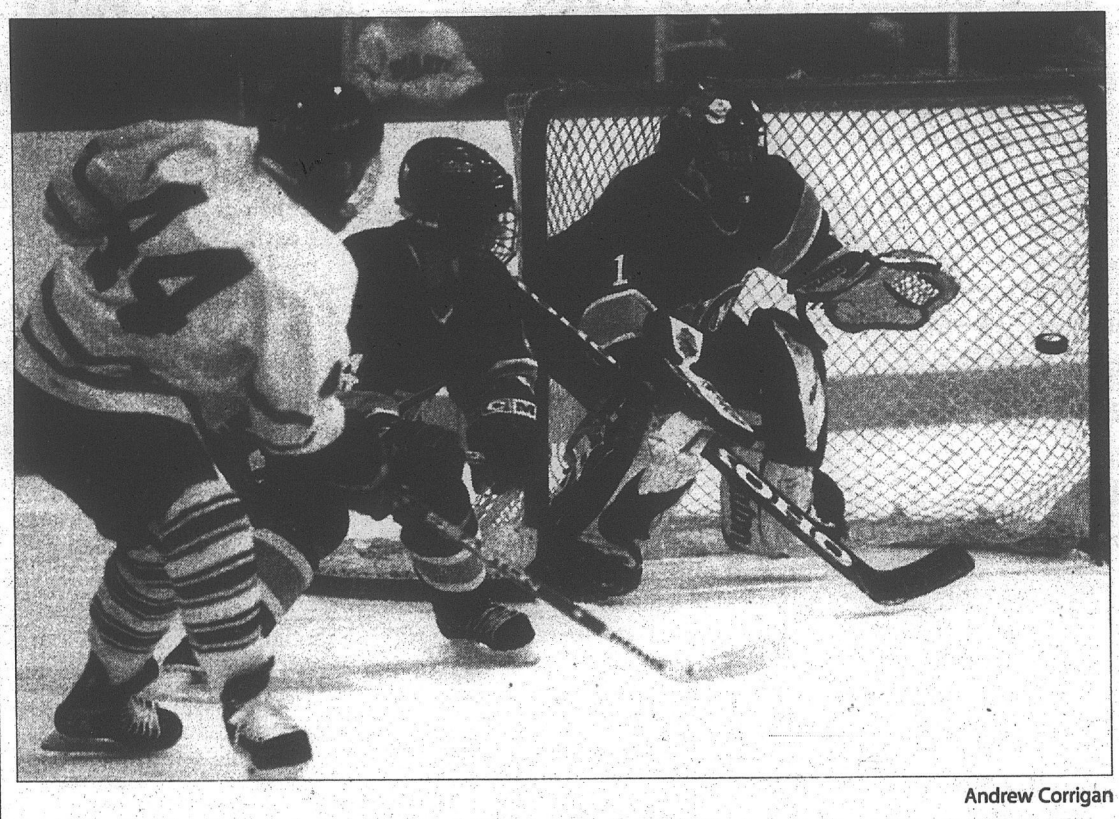
The Panthers then faced conference opponents Amherst and Trinity on the road over the final weekend of break. The weekend was disappointing as they suffered their first two conference losses despite posting some good statistics. At Trinity, Middlebury trailed only by 7 points at the half before eventually succumbing, to a Trinity team that sunk 64.3 percent of their threepoint shots, in a 50-75 loss. The Panthers had their own impressive statistic in this game as they were 100 percent from the free throw line.

Sunday saw Amherst edge out Middlebury in a close contest. Despite the fact that Middlebury posted a 42.9 percent shot percentage from the field, and Amherst a 39.6 percent the Lord Jeffs picked up the 67-61 victory. The weekend again saw Hanley lead the team with points scoring 14 against Trinity and 25 against Amherst. The Panthers will be in action at home this weekend with a pair of conference games against Bowdoin and Colby.



Peter Huoppi
Wesley Hyatt '03 posts up against a Norwich defender on Tuesday night.

Slapshot!



Andrew Corrigan

Looking to capitalize on a loose rebound, *Middlebury senior John Giannacopoulos watches as Colby goaltender Greg Stutman makes a save during Friday's game. Two wins sent Middlebury to first place in NESCAC.*

Indoor track falls short at Williams

By Sarah Alliman
Staff Writer

Last Saturday's Williams Quad-Cup brought together the athletes of Williams, Middlebury, Hartwick, and Keene State. The Middlebury indoor track athletes put forth a good showing as both men's and women's teams took home second place honors. While Williams' men ran away from the competition with the victory, Middlebury women led Williams through eleven events. Although Williams pulled ahead in the last five events, the Middlebury woman ended the meet with a strong second-place finish.

Coach Martin Beatty liked what he saw this weekend, noting that the team had a "good performance." Captain Michelle Young '00 said, "Both teams did very well. We lost a lot of teammates to J-term and to internships. Our performance as a team was great for the beginning of the year."

Several competitors highlight the women's meet. All-American Kristy Laramee '01 had an outstanding performance in the high jump clearing the height of 5' 6.5". An old rivalry was rekindled when Laramee and the Hartwick competitor Megnin battled it out until the end. The last time these two met was at last spring's NCAA championships. While they each cleared the same height, the winner was picked on the number of missed jumps. Laramee had a lower number of misses and so, in both last spring's case and Saturday's case, came out the winner.

The women's 4 x 200 meter relay also took first place. The team of Young, first-year Gillian Wood, Emily Kerner '02, and first-year Natalie Howley won the event with a time of 1:55.8. Beatty said, "Natalie's speed helped. She had good times." She also competed in the long jump and triple jump, and according to Beatty, "will be our main competitor in those events."

Howley also won both the triple jump (32"7.75') and the long jump (16"3.75'). Young was very impressed by this showing because this first-year "competed against experienced athletes and held her own. We are all very excited to have young teammates who will help push our team through to NESCACs. It's good to see the freshmen stepping up."

Thrower Christi Logue '02 won her weight-throw event with a throw of 38 feet. The duel between Logue and her nearest competitor, J. Williams from Williams, continued until the last throw when Logue's throw sailed over the other marks.

In the longer distances, Kasie Wallace '01 won the mile in a time of 5:22.39. Beatty noted that while Wallace is a primarily a longer distance runner, she showed some good speed. Unfortunately for the team, this was Wallace's last meet of the year, as she will be going abroad in the spring. First-year Larcombe Teichgraeber placed second in the race with a time of 5:26.69.

First-year Michela Adrian placed second in the 3000 meters with a time of 10:40.69. Beatty is looking forward to Adrian's continuing contribution to the team. He said that "her times were good and she shows a lot of promise and potential."

The last event of the meet was the 4 x 800 meter relay. The women's team, consisting of Adrian, Teichgraeber, first-year Adrianna Logalbo, and Wallace had a reputation to uphold. Middlebury has been the champion many times in this race over the years, and, by winning it in a time of 8:35.38, these women have continued the tradition.

In placing second behind Williams, the men showed their strength, and an impressed coach Beatty is looking forward to watching the improvement. Several athletes highlighted the men's meet. Jim Becker '01 had a personal record in the long jump with a third place jump of 20' 1.5". Young commented that Becker "had an amazing meet. He competed in four events and set personal records in at least two of those. He definitely stood out this weekend." Josh Fisher '00 also turned in a personal best with his fifth-place finish in the mile with a time of 4:40.05.

All-New-England champion Ethan Barron '01 won his specialty event, the 55 meter hurdles, in a time of 7.95. Teammate Andy Boyer '02 finished right behind him, placing second with a quick time of 8.30. Becker continued Middlebury's domination of the 55 hurdles by placing fourth in 9.10 seconds.

Ben Coello '01 won the high jump with a six foot jump and junior Andrew Haley placed right behind him, taking second with a jump of 5'8".

In the 3000 meter race, first-year Mike Mazzotta took second with a time of 10:10.53. The men's 4 x 400 meter relay team, consisting of Krishna Moody '00, Cisco Peschiera '01, Becker, and Fisher as anchor, placed third.

Beatty said he feels that the team performed very well at Williams and shows a lot of promise. While there is work to do, he believes that they are off to a strong start. The team heads to Montreal this weekend for its first international meet at McGill. Coach Beatty is excited about the good Canadian competition and bacon.

Looking for students who would be interested in forming a table tennis (ping pong) intramural sports club on campus. A local table tennis club is seeking to expand its operations into a college environment and has quality equipment available. Great sport for both men and women, particularly international students. If you would like to consider bringing this Olympic sport to the Middlebury campus, please call Ronald Lewis at 247-5913.

Injuries create difficult weekend for alpine team

By Josh Howe
Staff Writer

At the halfway marker of the Middlebury Ski Team's regular season, the circuit moved to Stowe last weekend for the University of Vermont Carnival. Though official results from the Carnival were mysteriously unreleased as of Sunday, the alpine squad clearly had a disappointing weekend, particularly on the men's side.

The Panthers kicked off the weekend with a shaky performance in Friday's giant slalom. Team captain Forest Carey pulled in a fifth place finish, but the rest of the men's side failed to execute. Tyler Conrad '02 missed the top ten, finishing right behind classmate Dana Drummond. The University of Vermont's Matthew Knittle took the win, foreshadowing the Catamounts' dominance of the weekend.

The women put in a solid day of racing as team captain Brooke Laundon came down with the fourth fastest time of the day. She was joined in the top ten by Meg Bonny '03, whose solid giant slalom performances has earned her a reputation as one of the top freshmen on the circuit. Sarah Brophy '02 kicked off the weekend with an impressive first run but had trouble with the second run and finished well behind the leaders. Shaina Mulkern of UVM took the victory.

In the slalom on Saturday, Scott Kennison pulled down another commanding win for the University of Vermont. Middlebury's Adam Baron was the only Panther to break into the top ten, with sophomores Dana Drummond and Fred Coriel finishing well behind in the low twenties. Forest Carey '00 ran into trouble on the rough course, as did fellow teammate Tyler Conrad. Both racers' mistakes took them out of contention.

The women's side fared far better on Saturday, with captain Brooke Laundon taking the first run and the overall victory. After a crucial bit of bad luck coming out of the start in the first run, Jessica Riegle fought back to win the second run, firing into the top ten despite her mistake. Brophy and Bonny, both renowned more for their giant slalom than their slalom, skied solidly but failed to break into the top 10.

While the Middlebury women's side skied solidly all weekend, the men's side left much to be desired. Coming off of a week of hard training in sub-zero temperatures, it is no surprise that many athletes weren't 100 percent for the Carnival. While Coriel was able to ski through an aggravated lower back injury all week, Carey and Drummond were both forced to take time off. Carey's bad knees were accompanied by a lung infection that has kept him at bay for much of the season and off snow on Wednesday, while Drummond's bruised shins kept him out of boots for two days.

Coach Mark Smith is convinced of the Catamounts' fallibility. The men's side will have an opportunity to rest over the week, and with a healthy and focused squad, the Panthers can give the stacked UVM team a run for their money. After three straight weeks of dominance, the Catamounts may start to relax, and a hungry Middlebury team, disappointed with their performances thus far, is ready to pounce.

Dartmouth will host the fourth of six regular season carnivals this weekend.

The circuit then moves to Williams, culminating in the EISA Finals at Middlebury on February 25.

Swinging in the snow

Andrew Corrigan

Swinging wildly at the ball, *a member of the incoming Feb class leads his team to victory during a broomball game in front of McCullough.*

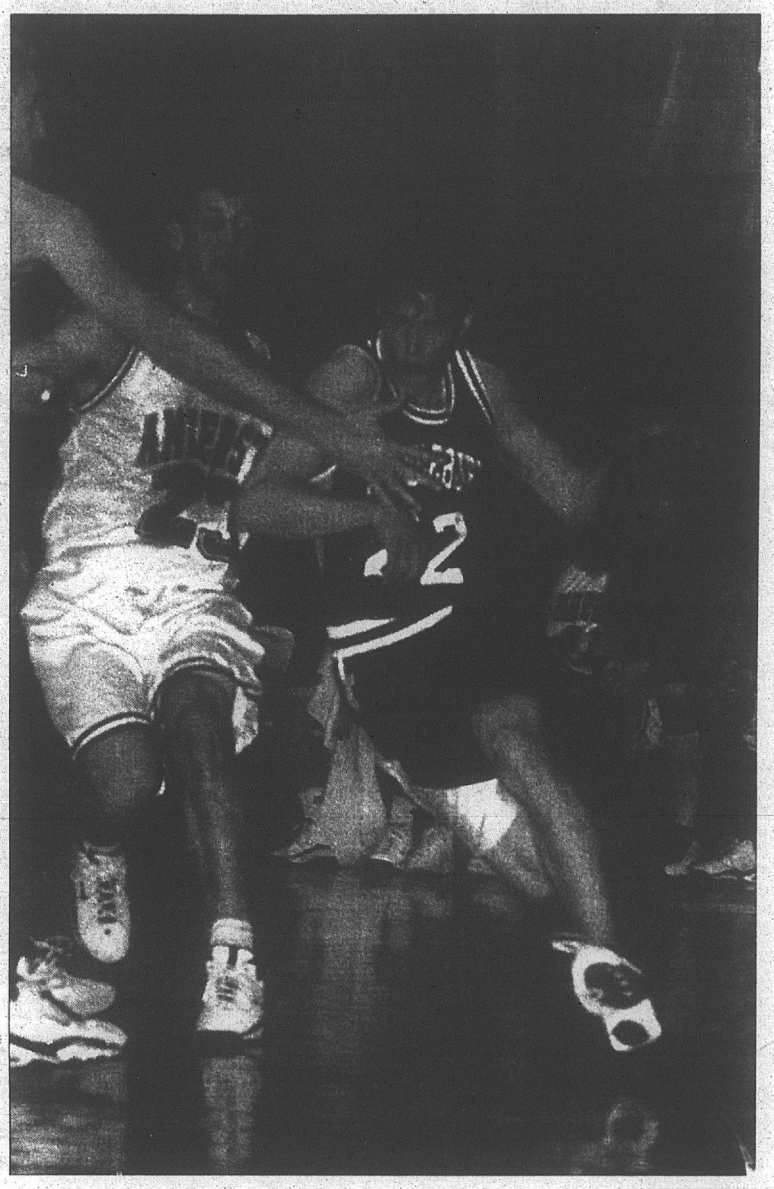
Men's basketball endures tough stretch

By Ben Dow
Assistant Sports Editor

While some of us were cruising the slopes or lounging on the beach over break, the Middlebury men's basketball team was enduring a tough stretch of season that handed them four straight NESCAC losses. The first blow came on January 28 at Connecticut College, 74-53. At Wesleyan the Panthers performed better but the result was the same, a 65-57 loss on the 29th. Back at home on February 4, Middlebury hosted Trinity and accepted a 74-57 loss. The next day brought the Amherst Lord Jeffs to town, who proceeded to break the hearts of the Panther faithful with a 69-66 victory. Defense was the key at Connecticut College as the Camels held the Panthers to 30 percent shooting for the game. The hosts also recorded 10 steals and 7 blocks with their efforts. On the offensive end the Camels handed out 5 more assists than the Panthers, and sank 21 of 30 free throws to Middlebury's 9 of 17. A bright spot for the Panthers was their 42-40 rebounding edge. Romul Braga '03 and Chad Malone '01 led the team with six boards apiece.

The following game at Wesleyan was considerably closer to form for Middlebury, illustrated by their 35 percent accuracy from beyond the three-point arc. But the home crowd was pushing for a Wesleyan victory, and the team responded, winning the rebound battle 38-32 in the process. Malone again led the team in rebounding with 7. Keith Watts '01 led the Panthers in scoring with 11 points off of 5 for 8 shooting.

Yet another Connecticut team tormented the Panthers on February 4 as 10-4 Trinity took a 74-57 win. Middlebury shot a lowly 29 percent to Trinity's 48 percent. Rory Neal's 14 rebounds and Julian Bah's five blocks led Trinity's stingy defense. Trinity also stepped to the charity stripe 15 more times than Middlebury. The scoring spread was also reflected in the rebounding advantage, which Trinity took 51-33.The latest was arguably the toughest, as Middlebury was leading the 12-5 Lord Jeffs by a score of 37-31 at the half. Coach Brown's squad did almost everything right, out rebounding the Jeffs and handing out more assists. Amherst overpowered the Panthers in the end, placing four players in double digit scoring. Braga once again proved his mettle inside by leading the Panthers in scoring with 13, on four for seven shooting in addition to five for five from the free throw line.he Panthers beat non-conference Norwich last night and will travel to Bowdoin on the 11th, followed by Colby on the 12th.



Andrew Corrigan

Craig Breen '00 drives against an Amherst defender during Saturday's game.

Women's swimming wins Vermont championship

By Shannon Egan
Staff Writer

Finishing up their regular season, the Middlebury men's and women's swimming and diving teams had two home meets this past weekend. First, in a dual meet on Friday night, the men's team defeated Division I Dartmouth College, 156-138, while the women fell short, 177-121.

At the Dartmouth meet, the men's team started strong with the 200 yard medley relay team of Scott Strickler '02, Mark Williams '00, Grayson Stuntz '02, and David Shomaker '00 touched out Dartmouth to win the event in 1:39.32.

Co-captain Shomaker went on to win the 50 yard freestyle in a time of 21.76. Senior Mark Williams also came back later on in the meet with another first-place finish in the 200 yard breaststroke (2:17.21).

Also pulling through for the Panthers was senior co-captain Ian Doherty, winning the 200 yard backstroke by over three seconds in 1:58.15. Andrew Boyce '02 won the 100 yard backstroke in a quick 55.31 seconds.

On the diving board, Dan Whitmore '03 set a career high with over 200 points on both the one-and three-meter boards. "Dan's hard work has taken him to the New England Championships," head coach Lisa Gibbs remarked.

For the men, the meet ended as perfectly as it began. The 200 yard freestyle relay team of Shomaker, Ben Stucker '00, Dane Callow '02, and Doherty defeated Dartmouth in 1:28.13. This is the second year in a row Middlebury men have defeated Dartmouth in swimming.

The women were led by senior tri-captain Jane Calfee, who won three individual events. Her time of 2:08.62 in the 200 yard backstroke earned her first place and a new pool record. Her other victories included the 100 yard backstroke (1:01.19) and the 200 yard individual medley (2:16.27). Kristen Watson '03 was the Panthers' only other female victory, winning the 200 yard breaststroke in 2:33.85.

Saturday afternoon at home, Middlebury dominated the Vermont State Meet, competing against Norwich University and St. Michael's College. The meet began with a ceremony honoring the graduating seniors of all three schools. The Panthers honored six members of the women's team and five members of the men's team. "It was a day of celebration for the seniors and the women tapering for State Championships. Fantastic performances were seen all around," said head coach Peter Solomon.

Senior Jamie McBride qualified for the New England Championships. The former diver recently suffered injuries that kept her from competing as a diver but did not keep her out of the water as a swimmer. Over the course of the season, she dropped two seconds in her 50 yard freestyle, finishing with a 26.5 at the State meet.

Meghan McGuinness '00 swam her last meet for Middlebury and saw several personal and seasonal best times. "Not to be outdone by the work ethic of Andrew Boyce," Coach Solomon said with a smile. "Meghan proved not only to herself but to the entire team that persistence and determination do indeed pay off." Meghan dropped over twenty seconds in the 500 freestyle over the course of the swimming season.

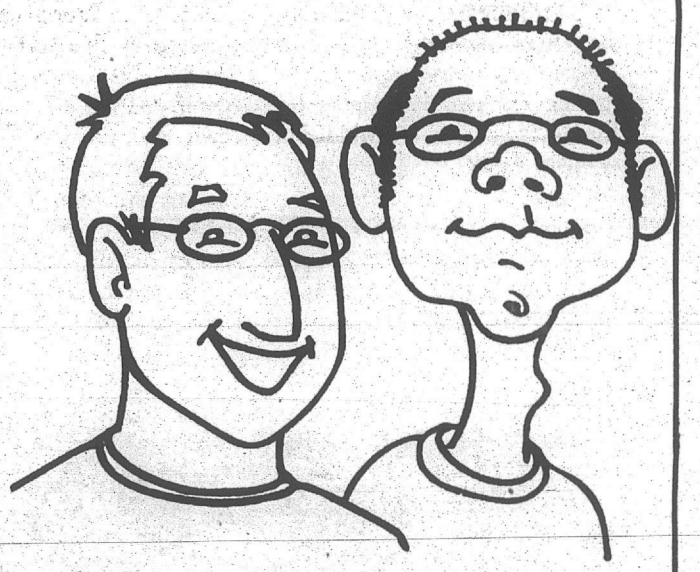
Senior tri-captain Carrie Pistenmaa, the only female diver on the team, had an incredible meet as well. She finished off an illustrious career with dual wins and career high scores in both the one and three-meter events, surpassing the 200 point barrier, a rare feat. "Carrie dove beautifully," said diving coach Lisa Gibbs. "Her leadership as a captain will certainly be missed next year."

First-years Jenn Schultz and Karen Johnson swam New England qualifying times. Sarah Schaffer '03, Meghan Dwyer '02, and Erin Sussman '01 finished with seasonal best times.

Tri-captain Gina Duff '00 remarked, "It was a great meet for those ending their season, as well as for the swimmers and divers ending their careers at Middlebury." She also commented on the group of graduating seniors, both men and women. "It's hard to believe it's been four years," she said. "The core of us that hung together for all four years has become such a solid group. We've had so much fun together, and we'll never forget it."

Those swimmers who qualified for the New England meet are preparing for their next challenge. The women will swim next weekend, and the men the following weekend.

Neil & Otto's pizza



52 Merchants' Row
388-6774/388-6776

Two large one item pizzas for $20.00!!!
(thin crust only)

Men's Sports	
Basketball at Bowdoin	February 11 @ 7 pm
Hockey at St. Anselm	February 11 @ 7:30 pm
Indoor Track at Smith	February 12

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Skiing at Dartmouth	February 11-12
Hockey vs. Union	February 13 @ 2 pm
Basketball vs. St. Lawrence	February 15 @ 7:30 pm

Men's hockey team vaults to first place in NESCAC standings

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Town News Editor

Two crucial league wins last weekend over Colby and Bowdoin catapulted the men's hockey team to first place in the NESCAC standings. Middlebury maintained their eighth-place ranking in the latest NCAA Division III National Poll. In action the previous weekend, the Panthers beat both Southern Maine and Salem State.

The Panthers' four-game winning streak started with a 3-0 win over Southern Maine on January 28. After a scoreless first period, senior John Giannacopoulos gave Middlebury the lead 26 seconds into the second period assisted by senior David Bracken and senior co-captain Curt Goldman. Sophomore J.F. Duchesne made it a 2-0 game halfway through the third period off an assist from fellow sophomore Andrew Campbell and first-year Gary Baronick. Bracken finalized the score at 3-0 with an empty netter with just thirteen seconds left to play in the game. Sophomore Christian Carlsson recorded his first career shutout in goal, making ten saves.

The Panthers shocked Salem State 6-1 in front of their home crowd. Giannacopoulos recorded a hat trick and an assist on the night. Middlebury came out strong, recording their first tally at the 2:07 mark when senior Eric Zink scored on an assist from Curt Goldman. Salem State answered towards the end of the period to tie the score.

The tie only lasted 32 seconds before Giannacopoulos took back the lead with his first goal of the night.

The Panthers scored two goals within 20 seconds during the first eighth minutes of the second period. Giannacopoulos recorded the first, assisted by junior Maxime LeBlanc and Zink. Matt Dunn '02 scored the second, assisted by Curt Goldman and Giannacopoulos. Matt Snyder 02 made the score 5-1 before the end of the period, scoring off an assist from sophomore Brendan Tuohy and Campbell.

The final score stood at 6-1, as Giannacopoulos added his final goal of the night with just a minute left to play in the third period, assisted by Curt Goldman and Dunn. Marsh made 20 saves in goal in the win. The Panthers outshoot Salem State 37-20.

Middlebury moved home the next weekend to take on Colby on Friday night and Bowdoin on Saturday. Senior Ben Barnett looked strong as he returned to the ice after a fourteen-week absence due to a knee injury. The scoring got underway at 3:28, as Curt Goldman wristed a goal into the bottom right of the net off a behind-the-net pass from sophomore Ryan Constantine.

The score remained at 1-0 until the second period, when Colby managed to put one by Marsh five minutes into the period to tie the game. Curt Goldman recovered the lead for the Panthers three and a half minutes later, scoring unassisted from the right wing. Bracken increased the lead to 3-1 with ten minutes left in the period when his shot deflected into the net off a Colby defender.

Colby cut Middlebury's lead to one just 44 seconds into the third period. Barnett, regaining his ice legs, killed their hopes with two goals in quick succession. The first came when Middlebury was on the power play goal after a Colby boarding call off an assist from Curt Goldman at the 3:25 mark. A minute and seven seconds later, Barnett's second goal finalized the score at 5-2 Middlebury.

Andrew Corrigan

Junior Scott Goldman fight off a Colby defender during the Panthers' 5-2 win over the White Mules. on Friday.

Middlebury skated out to an early lead against Bowdoin in the first period, with Matt Skoglund shooting a wrister into the upper right corner of the net at the 7:30 mark off an assist from Matt Snyder.

Curt Goldman came in on a breakaway ten minutes later after coming out on top in a scramble for the puck.

Bowdoin recovered in the first ten minutes of the second period, scoring two quick goals to tie the score. The Panthers began their retaliation at the 11:01 mark when sophomore Matt Dunn found and put home a loose puck resulting from some junior Scott Goldman fore-checking. After Bowdoin drew a penalty for boarding, Curt Goldman added another goal from the right circle.

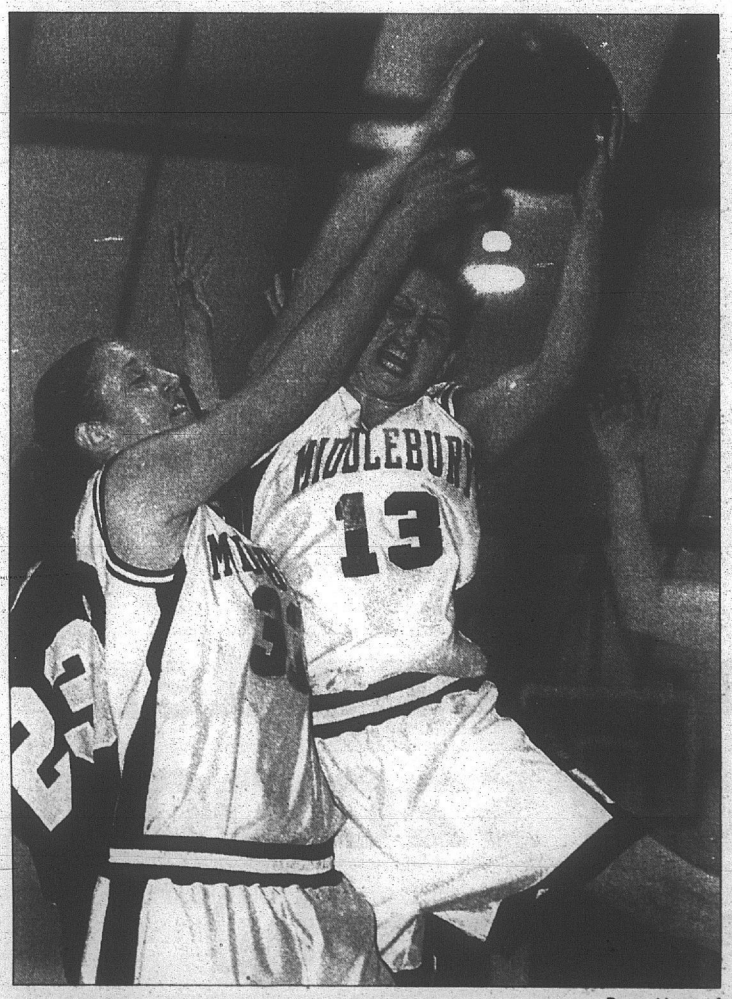
The Panthers began their retaliation at the 11:01 ark when sophomore Matt Dunn found and put home a loose puck ...

Senior John Giannacopoulos scored another tally on a breakaway, giving the Panthers a 5-2 lead heading into the third period.

While Bowdoin managed to score a final goal in the third period, it would not be enough, and the final score stood at 5-3 Middlebury. Senior goaltender

Jon Marsh made 20 saves in goal to preserve the win.Curt Goldman was named the NESCAC player of the week after his four-goal, one- assist week.

Boxed out



Peter Huoppi

Fighting off a pair of Norwich defenders, *Wesley Hyatt '03 and Megan McCosker '01 grab for a rebound.* *(See story on page 17)*

Nordic ski team begins 2000 season

By Justin Beckwith
Staff Writer

After returning from US Senior Nationals in Park City, Utah, the Middlebury Nordic Ski Team focused its energy on the eastern college circuit. So far, they have competed in two carnivals with solid results.

At the Saint Lawrence carnival, sub-zero temperatures forced the hosts to cancel team relays in favor of an individuals race format. Despite the adverse conditions, the Panthers skied to a second place finish in combined team scores. Led by Captain Eli Enman '00, Justin Beckwith '01, and Will Rawstron '00, the Panther men won their event by an eight point margin over rival UVM. UVM's Dave Stewart won the mass start, 15 kilometer race in a time of 41:05. On Stewart's heels, Enman nabbed second place from Beckwith by six-tenths of a second in an exciting sprint finish. Rawstron finished sixth after having lead the race to the 12km mark. Freshman

Tim Weston finished strong with a 12th-place finish, followed by Matt Whitcomb '01 in 21st, Chad Salmela '00 in 24th and Eric Goldwarg '00 in 26th. The Panthers began the season with a strong second-place finish in the 7.5 km skate race, seven points behind the UVM women. Captain Anna Kulmatiski '00 placed second in her best carnival finish to date, only 59 seconds behind UVM's star skier Tessa Benoit. Kristen Fairman '03 skied to a respectable 7th place finish in her first collegiate race. Megan Sands '02 was only seconds behind in 11th. The women's team showed their depth with Parke Cogswell '02 in 17th, Tamsen Kaylor in 21st, Susan Angst '01 in 22nd, and Hannah Taylor '02 in 30th.

The following weekend Middlebury traveled to New Hampshire for the UNH Carnival. Once again plagued with frigid conditions, the Panthers ended the weekend in second place behind the UVM Catamounts.

In the 10 kilometer classic event, Kulmatiski charged to another second place finish behind UVM's Benoit. Hillary Patzer '02 finished fourth. Sands improved from the previous weekend with a sixth-place finish. These results left the women only one point behind the UVM Catamounts. The rest of the Panthers finished close behind with Angst in 18th place, Fairman in 19th place, and Cogswell in 35th place.

The men finished a disappointing third behind UVM and Dartmouth. Senior Will Rawstron finished with a personal best of third place, Tim Weston finished tenth, and Matt Whitcomb, the final scoring member of the team, came in 18th. Behind Whitcomb, Eric Goldwarg and Justin Beckwith finished in 22nd and 24th respectively. On Saturday, the mixed relay event took place, in which two male and two female skiers each complete a five kilometer leg. Will Rawstron and Justin Beckwith led Middlebury's two scoring teams in the first leg, placing first and fourth respectively.

Rawstron tagged Hilary Patzer, who held on to first place, and Beckwith tagged Kristen Fairman, who dropped one place to fifth. In the third leg Eli Enman held onto first place and Tim Weston dropped another place to sixth. Kulmatiski and Sands anchored the two scoring teams, finishing forth and sixth respectively.

These placings gave the Panthers a solid second-place finish behind UVM, who claimed the top two spots in the relay event. Next weekend the Panthers will travel to Stowe and challenge the Catamounts on their home course.